SUPPLEMENT TO

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE

BOMBAY:—SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1877.

THE DISTRESSED DISTRICTS OF THE MADRAS AND BOMBAY PRESIDENCIES.

THE following is the letter from the Additional Secretary to Government of India to Sir R. Temple on a special mission in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies followed by a despatch to the Secretary of State for India, published on Tuesday last in the *Gazette of India Extraordinary* :—

No. 46, dated Fort William, the 16th January 1877.

Resolution—By the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce.

Read the following papers—

No 45, dated 16th January 1877.

From—The Hon'ble T. C. Hope. C.S.I., Additional Secy. to the Govt. of India, Dept. of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce,

To—The Hon'ble Sir Richard Temple, Bart., K.C.S.I., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal (on a special mission.)

His Excellency the Governor General in Council having been pleased to depute you on a special mission for the purpose of inspecting the districts suffering from scarcity in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, and conferring personally with the Governments of those Presidencies regarding the measures which are being carried out, and which will have to be carried out, for the relief of distress, I am directed to communicate to you the following observations, indicating the general views of the Government of India on some of the more important questions with which you will have to deal.

2. I am to observe in the first place, that while it is the desire of the Government of India that every effort should be made, so far as the resources of the State admit, for the prevention of deaths from famine, it is essential in the present state of the finances that the most severe economy should be practised. The distress is so widespread, extending over twenty one districts in the two Presidencies, and more or less affecting a population of twenty-seven millions, and threatens to be protracted for so many months, that the utmost care is necessary to restrict the expenditure to the absolute requirements of the case. Ever, however, if financial considerations were less overpoweringly strong, it would still be true that a Government has no better right in times of scarcity than in other times to attempt the task of preventing all suffering, and of giving general relief to the poorer classes of the community. False and mischievous ideas on this subject have become so prevalent that the Government runs some risk of being charged with inhumanity, when it declares that these are the principles by which it intends to be guided. The Governor General in Council will not be deterred by such considerations as these from a course of action which he knows to be right. Everyone admits the evils of indiscriminate private charity but the indiscriminate charity of a Government is far worse. The Government of India is resolved to spare no efforts which may be necessary and practicable, with reference to the means at its disposal, to save the population of the distressed districts from starvation, or from an extremity of suffering dangerous to life; but it will not sanction a course of action which must tend to demoralize the people themselves who are passing through a time of temporary trial, and inevitably lead to the imposition of heavy and permanent burdens on the industry of the country. Even for an object of such paramount importance as the preservation of life, it is obvious that there are limits which are imposed upon us by the facts with which we have to deal. If the estimates of the Local Governments are to be accepted, the relief of the existing scarcity in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, including loss of revenue, will not cost less than six and a half millions sterling. Considering that the revenues are barely sufficient to meet the ordinary expenditure of the empire, and that heavy additional taxation is both financially and politically impracticable, we must plainly admit that the task of saving life, irrespective of the cost, is one which it is beyond our power to undertake. The simple fact is this, that the recurrence of a few famines such as that from which the country is now suffering, or such as that which occurred three years ago in Behar, would, if measures of relief were carried on upon that principle, go far to render the future Government of India impossible. The embarrassment of debt, and the weight of taxation, consequent on the expenditure thereby involved, would soon become more fatal to the country than famine itself. Happily, however, the Government are not placed in any such dilemma. They believe that from the history of past famines, rules of action may be learnt which will enable them in the future to provide efficient assistance for the suffering people without incurring disastrous expenditure.

3. One of the first points which should engage your attention is the extent to which relief is given, and the principles on which it is afforded. The numbers on the relief works (which are given below) are so great, that the Government of India see reason to apprehend that many persons must be employed to whom such relief is not absolutely essential, and who without it would have been able to maintain themselves, at all events for some time to come :—

Madras—			
On relief works	1,125,117		
Fed gratuitously	119,363		
		1,244,480	
Bombay—			
On relief works		287,000	
		1,531,480	

The Governor General in Council does not for a moment doubt the reality of the calamity that has fallen upon the country, a calamity which unhappily threatens to become ere long still more disastrous. But it is necessary to remember that the mere collection of enormous numbers of people on relief works in seasons of scarcity is in itself no sufficient proof of serious actual suffering. If relief works are carried on upon wrong principles; if labour is not strictly exacted from all who are physically able to work; if proper supervision is wanting, and people find that they can obtain, almost for the asking, and in return for next to no work at all, wages in money or grain, there is hardly any limit to the numbers who even in prosperous times may be attracted to them. "When" as Sir George Campbell has observed, "a lax system is established, and everyone down to the merest child gets paid for the merest pretence of work, with probably a good many abuses besides, the thing becomes too attractive, the whole country tends to come on the works, the numbers threaten to be absolutely overwhelming. The people, too, become demoralized; works where real work is exacted, are deserted, and many evils follow." A good illustration of this may be found in the official narrative of the scarcity of 1873-74 in the North Western Provinces. "In a season of considerable pressure, but not of absolute famine, the relief works in Gorakhpur and Basti were for some weeks daily thronged by more than 200,000 men, women and children, who found an attraction in the light work, in the liberty of going at night to their houses after attending a sort of vast picnic during the day, and in the wages earned at a time when ordinarily they had no employment in the fields, and had to live on their harvest savings. But when the wages were cut down to a mere subsistence allowance, when a full day's labour was insisted on, and when the liberty of living at their homes was threatened, these immense crowds melted away as rapidly as they had collected, and it was found that there was hardly any one who really stood in need of relief." The Governor General in Council does not assert that a similar condition of things now exists in any of the districts of Madras or Bombay, but the matter is one which requires the most careful observation.

4. The general principles on which operations for the relief of famine in India should be conducted have been established beyond question by past experience. When, as may easily happen, at the commencement of a period of distress it is a matter of doubt whether serious scarcity is actually threatening a tract of country, it may be desirable, in the first instance, to open, as a tentative measure, small and well supervised local works. The Government may thus avoid the risk of finding itself committed to serious expenditure on large public works which there was no immediate necessity for undertaking. It was for reasons of this kind that the Government of India, at the commencement of the present scarcity, and while still in doubt regarding the extent to which relief operations might ultimately become necessary, thought it right, both in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, to encourage, in the first instance, the organization of works of a local character in preference to those of greater magnitude. But when it becomes no longer a matter of doubt that serious scarity is impending, and that relief will have to be provided upon an extensive scale, the great difficulty of insuring adequate supervision for numerous scattered works renders it necessary to resort to large works on which large gangs of labourers can be employed, and on which adequate labour tests can be exacted. As soon, therefore, as it is clear that the Government will have to undertake serious measures for the relief of scarcity, no time should be lost in giving to the people, to the greatest extent practicable, the means of employment on large public works. Such works supply the means of subsistence to the able bodied poor; they prevent, instead of merely relieving, distress.

5. In choosing such works it is obviously of great importance that those selected shall be of a permanently useful and remunerative character; for it is in the last degree unsatisfactory that when the necessity for employing great multitudes of people is forced upon the Government, their labour, which might have been devoted to works which would have conferred lasting benefit on the country, should be thrown away. The works should also be such as are calculated to absorb in comparison with their entire cost a sufficient proportion of labour during the anticipated period of famine. They need not always be in the distressed districts, or near the homes of the people who require relief. When railways or other thoroughly good means of communication are available, it may sometimes be easier and wiser to carry the people to the works and to their food, than to carry the food to the people. Temporary migration from their homes has always, in times of scarcity, been the natural and one of the best remedies to which the people have had recourse, and the organization of public works in places where food is plentiful, and to which access is not difficult from the distressed districts, may in some cases be more useful than works at places where the supply of food is already insufficient. No apprehension need be felt that the people will not return to their homes when the period of distress has passed away. It will be for you to consider how far these principles are being acted on, and if necessary to recommend to the Local Governments the discontinuance of any works, or system of works, which, in your opinion, cannot be usefully proceeded with.

6. When, by undertaking large public works, employment has been provided for the able-bodied poor, it may still be necessary, even before the pressure of famine has become extreme, to afford means of support to persons who are physically unable to give a full amount of labour in return for the wages they receive. These must either be employed in poor-houses or on roads and other easy work, every effort being made to prevent relief being given to any one who does not really require it. It has often been found a most useful test of actual distress to insist, when charitable relief is necessary, that it shall ordinarily be given in the shape of cooked food.

7. It should be added that when distress becomes extreme, and a state of absolute famine

has been reached, that large public works may become insufficient to afford relief to the numbers of people in need of it. At such a time the Government may be driven to set up relief works near the homes of the people on a scale inconsistent with careful supervision or searching tests. Such measures as may be practicable must then be adopted for reducing to a minimum the inevitable evils that will then arise. The Governor General in Council leaves it to you to communicate to the Local Governments the results of your own experience in regard to this very difficult part of the question.

8. A very satisfactory feature in the course taken by the Bombay Government in dealing with the present famine in their adherence to the principle of non-interference with private trade, which up to the present time they have acted on with marked success. In Madras a different policy has been observed. At an early stage in the scarcity, the Government of Madras contracted through a local firm for a supply of 30,000 tons of grain, to be used as a reserve to meet deficiencies in the local markets. Applications for authority to make further similar purchases have since been received, but have not been sanctioned, the Government of India being of opinion that such purchases are seriously calculated to discourage the operations of private trade, and to increase, instead of diminishing, the difficulty of procuring the supplies which will be necessary to augment the deficient food-supplies of the Presidency. Enquiry has been made whether this objection would apply to the Government advertizing for tenders for the supply and delivery of grain in the immediate neighbourhood of certain works on which gangs of labourers are employed at a distance from all local markets. The answer must of course be in the negative. There is no more objection to such purchases than there is to the Government making purchases through tue Commissariat for the troops. The objection is to the Government entering into transactions which may excite apprehensions on the part of traders, that the Government are about to take their place, and so to disarrange the bases on which they found their calculations of profit. This objection is especially applicable to purchases of a secret character. In such cases the fact that the Government are in the market is almost certain to become known, and thereupon doubts are raised as to the nature and extent of the transaction, and private trade is paralysed. In regard not only to this but all other matters connected with the management of famines, the general rule should be that the operations of the Government, and the reasons on which those operations are based, shall receive full and complete explanation and publicity.

9. One of your most important duties in connection with the present state of things in the Madras Presidency will be to ascertain how far private trade, if left perfectly unfettered, may be counted on to supply the wants of that Presidency. As at present informed, the Governor General in Council entertains a strong opinion that the supply of that Presidency from foreign sources, such as Burma, Bengal, &c., should be left altogether to private trade, and that the intention of the Government so to act should be widely made known, together with full and frequent information regarding the prices of food-grains and other articles of consumption in the distressed and other districts. It is possible, however, that in certain localities at a distance from the lines of railway and from large markets, it may be requisite for the Government to intervene by making purchases at the nearest local depot to which the trade will convey the grain. In such cases, where the local trade, from whatever cause, is not active, the direct intervention of the Government may probably tend rather to facilitate than to discourage the importations of grain, by affording confidence to the trade that importations will find a certain purchaser. Finally, it must not be overlooked that there is a great advantage in paying labourers on relief works in money, wherever and so long as this mode of relief is practicable.

10. The Governor General in Council would have hoped that it was hardly necessary to impress upon local officers the importance of exercising no interference of any kind with the object of reducing the price of food; but cases have come to his notice which show that a warning on this point may not be uncalled for. It is obvious that, especially in a time of scarcity nothing could be more mischievous than such interference, and that high prices, by reducing consumption and encouraging the importation of fresh supplies of food, are not only necessary but highly beneficial.

11. Another matter of importance is the question of transport of grain, both on the railways and to parts of the country with which the existing means of communication are insufficient, as well as of providing additional facilities for landing it at the ports. These matters, the Government of India have reason to believe, have not been at all overlooked by the Local Governments, but it is probable that your experience will enable you to offer valuable suggestions on the subject.

12. There is one other subject to which the Governor General in Council thinks it desirable to refer, not because it is one with which you will have at present in any way deal, but because he wishes to place you generally in possession of the views which are held by the Government of India on all the more serious questions connected with the treatment of Indian faminies.

You will observe that His Excellency in Council, in my letter to the Government of Bombay, No. 5A., dated the 5th instant, has laid down the principle that if any great irrigation works or other works of local and provincial importance, involving heavy future responsibilities for their completion and maintenance, be undertaken, certain rules will be held applicable, which will hereafter he prescribed in regard to the enforcement of provincial responsibility for meeting the charges for extraordinary public works. This is not a convenient time for entering into a full discussion of these questions but His Excellency in Council desires to take the present opportunity of declaring his opinion, not only that the main portion of the charges incurred on public works which protect the people against famine, and which add greatly to their wealth, should be borne by the people protected and benefited, and not by the general tax-payer, but also that every province ought, so far as may be practicable, to be held responsible for meeting the cost of the famines from which it may suffer. The Governor General in Council believes that until these principles are enforced, the only real security for wise and economical management will be wanting. When Local Governments and local officers understand that the inevitable consequence of unnecessary expenditure will be the imposition of heavy burdens upon their own people, and not upon those of other provinces, a powerful and most useful check upon extravagance will have been established. On this subject the opinions of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India have been expressed in a passage which may properly be quoted here*:—

"There is a further point, though not one to fall within the scope of such an enquiry as that which you have directed to be made, which should, in my opinion, be carefully considered by Your Excellency's Government before the questions that arise in connexion with the occurrences of 1873-74 can be regarded as fairly met. I refer to the proper incidence of the charges that are necessarily incurred in providing for the requirements of the population of a district in a period of drought. However plain may be the primary obligation on the State to do all that is requisite and possible towards preserving the lives of the people under such circumstances, it would be most unwise to overlook the great danger of tacitly accepting, if not the doctrine, at least the practice, of making the general revenues bear the whole burden of meeting all local difficulties or of relieving all local distress, and of supplying the needful funds by borrowing in a shape that establishes a permanent charge on the general revenues for all future time. In Bengal, where (as the Lieutenant-Governor observes in reference to the objection of the Government in relation to emigration) the beneficial interest of the Government in the land is limited by the permanent settlement, these considerations are of special and more pressing application.

"The question which is thus raised of how to make local resources aid in meeting local wants, is no doubt one of great difficulty and complexity, particularly in a country like India. But the difficulty of providing any satisfactory solution of it should not be allowed to obscure the perception of its vital importance to the future well-being of the country, as well as of the troubles to the Government and the demoralization of the people which must necessarily result from postponing too long the introduction of some system under which shall be suitably recognised the undoubted responsibility which rest on the people themselves to provide for their own support and well-being. The duty of the State does not extend further than to see that the needful means are suplied for giving effect to this princi le, and for distributing the local burdens arising from its practical application in the manner which shall be most equitable and least onerous to those who have to bear them.

The manner in which these principles shall be carried into practical effect is under the consideration of the Government. It is sufficient at present to say that the Governor General in Council is of opinion that they ought to be kept in view in connection with the present scarcity, and that a considerable portion, if not the whole, of the permanent charges which relief operations now in progress may entail ought to be borne by the Presidencies in which the expenditure is being incurred.

13. The above are the only observations that the Government of India deem it at present necessary to place on record in connection with the onerous and delicate duty which you have undertaken; and they have been made, not so much with the view of advising you on a subject which you have probably studied more thoroughly than any other public officer in India, as for the purpose of furnishing you with a statement of the views of the Government of India, to which you can refer in your communications with the Local Governments. I am directed, in conclusion, to convey to you the cordial thanks of the Governor General in Council for the promptitude with which on this, as on other occasions, you have responded to the call made upon you.

* Despatch from Secretary of State to Government of India No. 59 (Revenue), dated 25th November 1875.

No. 2, dated the 12th January 1877.
From the Government of India, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

In our despatch of the 5th instant, and the telegram of the same date, we reported that, after personal confeernce with the Governors of Madras and Bombay, we deemed it necessary, in view of the rapidly increasing numbers on the relief works, the doubtful expediency of the policy of importing grain favoured by the Madras Government, and the heavy estimated of relief expenditure received, to depute Sir Richard Temple on a special mission to the distressed districts. Sir Richard Temple started from Delhi for Bombay on the following day, accompanied by Mr. C. E. Bernard as Secretary.

2. Our Weekly Despatches, together with those forwarded by the Gevernments of Bombay and Madras, will have conveyed to Your Lordship in detail all the information regarding the famine which is at present in our possession. This information is not in some respects, as complete as could be desired, and will not be materially supplemented until the receipt of the detailed accounts of the condition of the distressed districts, which were called for in our letter of the 30th November last and which will not be due until the 15th instant. These accounts are to be distinct for each taluka (or sub-division of a district), showing fully its condition and prospects, the measures undertaken and required, and the probable number of persons for whom relief must be provided at successive periods up to the next year's harvest. In the meantime we may submit the following brief review.

3. About the middle of August the scantiness of the rainfall in certain Collectorates of the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country excited some apprehension, and early in September the necessity for relief in portions of the Poona district, together, with the existence of distress in the adjacent districts of Ahmednagar and Sholapur, were brought to the notice of the Government of India, but it was not until the latter part of October that the hopes which had been entertained of a fall of rain sufficient to save portions of the withering crops and to enable the *rabi* sowings to be begun were dissipated, and that serious and extended distress was recognized as inevitable.

4. It was soon apparent that the area which was to a greater or less degree affected comprised Khandeish and eight districts of the Bombay Deccan, as specified below, with a population of eight millions, and a revenue, from land and excise, of a million and a half. Moreover, the affected districts enclosed Native States under our political control, and in some instances under our management, containing a population of nearly two millions more.

DISTRICTS.	Area.	Population	Land Revenue realizable by Government in 1874-75.	Excise Revenue.
	Sq. M.		Rs.	Rs.
Khandesh	10,162	1,028,642	30,21,890	2,13,605
Nasik	8,140	734,386	11,67,169	65,824
Ahmednagar	6,647	773,938	13,30,602	22,745
Poona	5,099	907,235	12,83,771	1,59,962
Sholapur	3,925	662,986	10,44,010	46,801
Kaladgi	5,695	816,037	12,18,256	1,32,643
Satara.....	5,378	1,116,050	16,53,136	27,320
Belgaum	4,591	938,750	12,59,977	1,27,455
Dharwar	4,564	988,037	19,60,635	2,20,366
TOTAL...	54,203	7,966,061	1,39,39,446	10,16,821

5. The failure of crops has of course varied greatly throughout this large tract, and we have not as yet any precise statistics on the subject; but acording to returns received in November, the failure was almost entire in 21 out of 91 talukas (or sub-divisions of districts), it amounted to half but less than the whole in 59 more, and was under half in 11 only. Taking the districts by name, in Sholapur the failure was complete, in Kaladgi very nearly so, Dhsrwar came next and not far behind these; then Belgaum and Poona. Ahmednagar had talukas both well and ill off. In Khandeish and Nasik the loss was believed to be about one-half, and Satara on the whole had suffered least of all. These estimates were extremely roug, and have in some instances been since modified for the better. Regarding the Native States we have no detailed information, but they are believed to be in much the same condition as the adjacent British districts.

6. Recently we received acoounts of distress

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in certain parts of the Colaba and Ratnagiri districts, which are on the coast below the Ghâts, but we have every hope that it will be confined in area and moderate in severity.

7. The relief which has as yet been afforded has been principally in the form of minor works, intended not to draw large bodies of people away from their homes, as we consider such to be the best form of relief at the commencement of at scarcity, before its limits have been fully ascertained. In October last we informed the Government of Bombay that we did not consider that sufficient grounds then existed to justify the commencement of the Dhond and Manmar Railway, which they desired, or of other works involving heavy expenditure after the necessity for relief had ceased. More recently however the ascertained importance of the scarcity, together with the representations of the Bombay Government that minor works were in some districts becoming exhausted, have induceed us to a[illegible]ove of the commencement of large projects on the understanding that any excess of expenditure over relief requirements will be borne by provincial funds. As regards the grain trade we have supported the determination of the Bombay Government to leave the trade entirely free, the result of which is that supplies have poured into the distressed districts from all quarters, and are offered to an extent in excess of the carrying powera of the railways, while prices have been considerably lowered in consequence. By a fortunate coincidence, the harvests in ot her parts of India, except Madras, have been excellent.

8. The Bombay Government have placed a sum of Rs. 25,000 at the disposal of each of the Collectors of the most distressed districts for the purpose of charitable relief to the aged, infirm and others unable to work; but Government assistance of this kind has not as yet been much needed, partly in consequence of the very liberal efforts which have been made by private individuals and public subscription.

9. The want of rain having very materially affected the sources of water-supply, the condition of the cattle, which are very numerous, nearly equalling the population in the affected districts, caused from an early period much anxiety, and many thousand head are reported to have perished. The Government forest reserves have however been thrown open for grazing, under as few restrictions as possible; arrangements have heen made for sending the cattle to them from all quarters, under certificates from the several Mamlutdars, and the privilege has been availed of to an extent which affords reason to hope that a large proportion of the more valuable cattle at least will be saved.

10. According to the latest returns which are available, the uumber of persons on the relief works was about 287,000, and the famine expenditure, exclusive of about six lakhs borne by Provincial, Local, and Municipal Funds, amounted to Rs. 12,15,359. The total loss of revenue and relief expenditure is estimated by the Local Government at two crores and six lakhs of rupees.

	1876-77.	1877-78.	TOTAL.
	Lakhs.	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
Loss of revenue	46	20	66
Relief expenditure	54	86	140
TOTAL	100	106	206

11. The south-west monsoon having been put scanty in the Ceded Districts of the Madras Presidency (Bellary and Cuddapa) and in Kurnool, distress appeared there in August last, and a few relief works were set on foot, as also the distribution of food to the aged and others unable to work. To this failure of rain was gradually added that of the north east monsoon also, which, it had been hoped, might have saved a portion of the fast withering crops, and facilitated larger sowings than usual of the latter crops usually produced under its influence. The condition of these three districts, which already, it may be remarked, suffered from two previous bad seasons, thus became, by the end of October, extremely critical.

12. The failure of the north east moonsoon above alluded to has also extended to a large portion of the rest of the Madras Presidency. In some quarters the failure has been complete, in others only partial, and although rain has very lately fallen to a limited extent in some of the southern districts, severe distress has overtaken large masses of the population.

13. Two tracts are thus affected. The first, consisting of the Ceded Districts and Kurnool, is compact and well defined, and the distress is far more severe in it than elsewhere; the second comprises nine districts, within which the distress depends upon the varying local failures of the north-east monsoon, regarding which no details are available sufficient to enable the population actually affected to be stated. The general statistics of the districts are given below:—

DISTRICTS.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Land Revenue.	Excise on Spirits and Drugs.
			Rs.	Rs.
Bellary	14,007	1,663,706	23,43,386	6,89,841
Kurnool	7,358	959,640	14,27 653	3,31,272
Cuddapah	8,367	1,351,194	17,71,726	2,07,108
TOTAL FIRST TRACT ...	26,732	3,978,840	5,542,765	12,28221
Kistna	8,036	1,452,374	38,46,936	1,64,585
Nellore	8,462	1,376,811	24,73,598	89,773
Chingleput	2,753	938,184	16,32,688	1,57,129
North Arcot	7,139	2,015,278	26,91,778	3,15,842
Salem	7 483	1,966 995	21,88,827	3,06.113
Madura	9,562	2,266,615	19,24 196	1,37,974
Coimbatore	7,432	1,763,274	25,01,180	2,80,718
Trichinopoly	3,515	1,200,403	15 51,787	1,49,363
Tanjore	3,654	1,973,731	39,89,490	4,94 555
TOTAL SECOND TRACT ...	57,976	14,953,670	2,17,03,480	20,95585
GRAND TOTAL ...	84,708	18,932,510	2,72,46,245	33,23803

Only eight districts in the whole Madras Presidency) Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavery, South Arcot, Tinnevelly, Nilgiris, Malabar, and South Canara,) are thus as yet free from actual famine; but even among these, a certain amount of distress, accompanied by high prices, has appeared in South Arcot, Tinnevelly and Malabar, and causes apprehension regarding the future.

14. The distress in the Ceded Districts and Kurnool far exceeds, as has been said above, that elsewhere. Taking the remaining districts in rough order, Nellore and Chingleput appear to come first, North Arcot and Salem next, followed by Coimbatore and Madura, while Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Kistna are comparatively well off.

15. Speaking in general terms, the Madras Government has followed the policy of previous famines in that Presidency by commencing with relief works at the head-quarters of taluks and districts, and giving charitable relief freely, and then extending its operations to minor works in the villages. At the end of October that Government also requested permission to commence the earth-work of the railway from Bellary to Guduk in the Dharwar District of the Bombay Presidency, but we withheld our sanction on the same grounds as those which led us to a similar course in the case of the proposed Dhond and Manmar line. The Madras Government then commenced the remainting eighty-five miles of the east cost canal, the conversion of the Arconum-Conjeveram Railway to the metre gague, and a canal in the town of Madras.

16. The Madras Government likewise purchased, at the beginning of November, 30,000 tons of grain, which it would appear was intended for use either in payment of wages on relief works, or for sale to the general public, as circumstances might be. We lost no time in intimating our disapproval of this transaction, which was effected without previons communication with the Government of India, and have since negatived two proposals for further purchases, and emphatically expressed our desire that no interference with the operations of trade should be attempted.

17. The number of persons on the relief works, according to the latest accounts, was 1,125,117, to which must be added 119,363 persons receiving charitable relief almost entirely at the expense of the State. The relief expenditure already sanctioned by the Madras Government up to the 30th ultimo was Rs. 55,69,059. The local Government, in their more recent reports, estimate the total relief expenditure which will be required up to the end of September 1877 at Rs. 3,41,05,875, and the loss of revenue at Rs. 1,17,00,000, making, with extra establishments, a probable total of above four and a half millions sterling.

18. The province of Mysore, like portions of Madras, is undergoing a second year of scarcity, and the failure of both monsoons during the current year has affected the whole province except a few taluks to the westward, the crops dependent on irrigation from tanks suffering almost as much as the others. The absence of water has also destroyed the pasturage for cattle, the mortality of which in one district alone, in one month, has been estimated at 11,400 head. The area of Mysore is 27,346 square miles, the population, 5,055,000, and the land, forest and excise revenue Rs. 70,39,819. Relief works were started at an early stage, and in addition to extensive transfers in the budget of the year, special grants, amounting to three lakhs of rupees have at various times been sanctioned. Expenditure in Mysore does not, of course, fall on imperial revenues. The Chief Commissioner has carefully abstained from all interference with private trade in grain.

In the adjoining district of Coorg, which is British Territory, no failure of crops has as yet occurred sufficient to warrant the commencement of relief operations.

19. The western and southern portions of the territories of His Highness the Nizam have not escaped the effects of the deficient monsoon. In October last we were urged through the Resident to reduce the freight of grain carried by railway to Hyderabad districts, but did not sanction the measure, as it was deemed by both the Bomby and Madras Governments to be unnecessary. The Nizam's Government has since started relief works, which suffice, as far as we are aware, to meet the exigencies of the case.

20. It will have been seen from the above brief sketch that the entire area of British Territory affected by scarcity is 138,911 square miles, the population 26,898,571, and the realizable annual revenue Rs. 4,54 26,315. The estimeted loss of revenue is 183 lakhs, and the estimated relief charges 481 lakhs, or a total, including establishment and various unestimated charges, of probably not less than six and a half millions sterling. The number of persons in receipt of relief is 1,531,480.

31. The prospect is thus serious in the extreme. While the necessity of preventing, as far as practicable, death by starvation is paramount, the financial embarrasment which must in any case arise will be most difficult to overcome, and any departure from the most rigid economy, or from the principles in dealing with famine which experience has confirmed, as sound, may aggravate it to a degree which cannot be estimated. These considerations, together with doubts which we entertained regarding the policy of the Madras Government respecting the purchase of grain and the sufficiency of existing restrictions on employment on the works in both Madras and Bombay, have, as already stated, induced us, after personal conference at Delhi with the Governors of the two Presidencies, to depute Sir Richard Temple on a special mission to visit the distressed districts, confer with the local Governments, and offer to them such suggestions as he may deem the occasion demands. We have every hope that, under his advice, and by the light of the complete review and forecast above referred to as shortly to be received, the operations may be confined within limits commensurate with the occasion, and that both loss of life and an extoavagant outlay may be avoided.

T. C. HOPE,
Addl. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

A QUARTERLY meeting of the Municipal Corporation of Bombay was held yesterday at the Municipal Offices for the transaction of miscellaneous business, when there were present:— Ardasir Framjee Moos, Ardasir Merwanjee Sett, James Bapty, Esqs., Dr. Blaney, Bhugwandas Purshotumdas, Bomonjee Pestonjee Master, Cowasjee Manockjee Limjee, Dosabhoy Framje E. Freeborr, Hassonbhoy Visram, Esqs., Captain Henry, Homjee Cursetjee Dady, Jeemabhoy Lalljee Javerilal Omiashunker, D. S. Kemp, K. C. Bedarkar' K. R. Cama, Grattan Geary, Esqs., the Hon. M. A. Rogay, Captain Morland, Raghunath N. Khote, Esq., Dr. R. C. Badhurjee, Rahimtoola M. Sayani, N. Spencer, J. Thorburn, Esqs., and Colonel Thacker. On the motion of Captain Henry, seconded by Dr. Blaney, Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, in order to avoid any technical difficulty, formally voted into the chair.

ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN OF THE CORPORATION.

The Chairman then said—Gentlemen, the first business before the meeting is the election of our Chairman for the current year, and when you hear the name of the gentleman whom I am about to propose, you will all I am sure, say that a better selection for the office of Chairman of this Corporation could not be made. You, all know Colonel Hancock as a gentleman of high standing and great ability, (applause) and one who, from the time of his appointment as a Justice of the Peace up to this day, has taken the most lively interest in the affairs of this Municipality, and who, with his sound sense and high professional attainments, has greatly aided us in our deliberations. Further remarks would be considered needless, and I now beg to propose Colonel Hancock, of the Royal Engineers, as our Chairman for the curren year. (Cheers.)

Captain Henry said he had very great pleasure in seconding the proposition. It was, he thought, needless to say anything in Colonel Hancock's behalf. He was well-known among them; and a better choice could not have been made. He had on all occasions rendered willing service and aided them with his professional experience.

At the suggestion of Dr. Blaney, the last few words were added to the proposition, which then stood:— Proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Captain Henry, That Colonel H. F. Hancock, R.E, be elected Chairman of the Municipal Corporation for the current year in accordance with the provisions of section 10 of the Municipal Act.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

THANKS TO THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN.

Mr. K. C. Bedarkar said that, before the other business was proceeded with, he would propose that the thanks of the Corporation be given to the retiring Chairman

who had discharged his duties, in the interests of the Corporation, with his usual ability and care. (Cheers.)

The Hon'ble Mr. Rogay seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Dosabhy Framjee said he thanked the Corporation for the vote just passed, but he felt he had not been able to do justice to the post of Chairman. However, as they had been good enough to propose the vote of thanks to him, he must accept it and thank them for it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following resolutions were then proposed *seriatim* and unanimously passed:—

Proposed by Mr. R. N. Khote, and seconded by Mr. K. C. Bedarkar, That sanction be given to the sale of 43 square yards of ground at Chinch Bunder, 1st Row, to Mr. Jetha Nagsey, at Rs. 20 per yard.

Proposed by Dr. Blaney, and seconded by the Hon. Mr. Rogay, That sanction be given to the payment of Rs.7,200 on account of building, &c., for the desiccating machine at Camatteepoora, as recommended by the Town Council.

Proposed by Mr. Homjee Cursetjee Dady, and seconded by Mr. Joomabhoy Laljee, That sanction be given to the grant of Rs. 1,000 additional for charges on account of the Victoria Gardens, for 1876, as recommended by the Town Council.

Proposed by Mr. Bomonjee Pestonjee, and seconded by Mr. Jevatilal Umiashunkar, That sanction be given to the payment of Rs. 1,597-5-0 on account of law charges in connection with the taking up of ground for the New Currey Road at Parell, as recommended by the Town Council.

SERVICE RESERVOIR FOR VEHAR WATER.

It was proposed by Captain Henry, and seconded by Mr. K. C. Bedarkar, That Mr. Braham's report on the construction of a service reservoir in Bombay for the Vehar water supply be recorded, and that if there are funds available from the New Loan after the completion of the scheme already sanctioned, Mr. Braham's proposal should be considered with a view to its being carried out from such funds.

Captain Henry said the Town Council had gone with very great care into the proposal for a service reservoir, which would materially facilitate the distribution of Vehar water in the city. But there were no available funds; and the Municipal Commissioner, who was unfortunately detained elsewhere on official business, had asked him to state so to the Corporation. The thanks of the Municipality were due to Mr. Braham for giving his attention to the subject soon after his entering the Municipal service, and preparing an elaborate report thereon.

Mr. Bomonjee Pestonjee Master, who began with saying he would support the proposition but ended with proposing an amendment, then said,—Sir, Mr. Braham deserves the best thanks of the Corporation and of the citizens of Bombay for bestowing his especial attention on a proposal the carrying out of which will be a source of great blessing to the poor and labouring classes of this densely populated city. I have on several occasions brought to the notice of the Corporation the distress and privations suffered by the bulk of our fellow citizens owing to certain defects in the supply and distribution of Vehar water, and our worthy Municipal Commissioner, Mr. Pedder, has been good enough to quote in an appendix to his letter to Government one of my speeches on this subject, as stated in para. 11 of page 13 of Mr. Braham's report now before us. With the permission of the Chairman, I should like to read this speech with the view of refreshing the memories of the members on a question of such vital importance. (Reads.) From this it will be seen that in the capacity of a Municipal body, we are charged with the main duty of giving the maximum amount of health not only to the upper ten thousand but to one and all, and especially to the poor and labouring classes, who constitute the backbone, the spinalcord of every society—the reservoir from which the upper and middle classes draw the streams of wealth and happiness that make up the greatness of a city; and if we fail in discharging this main and primary duty, we would virtually be a defunct body. The proposal to construct a reservoir at Bunderwara Hill is replete with so many advantages to the town, as shown by Mr. Braham, that it should be carried out *conte qui conte*. The main features of the proposal are, 1st, the town will be supplied with water during the day, thus relieving the people from the necessity of keeping up until a late hour of the night for storing up their water—thus giving them ample time to enjoy their sleep and rest. 2nd. A great saving will be made in the enormous quantity of water which is wasted by the taps being left open during the whole of the night, which, in addition to the waste of water, prevents people in the neighbourhood from enjoying their sleep by the noise caused by the incessant flow of the taps during a great portion of the night. 3rd. According to the present mode of distribution, coal and sewage gases, and even sewage water, can find their way into the main and service pipes, thus affecting the purity of the water, and consequently the health of the town. All this will be prevented by carrying out this proposal. This is a matter of vital importance to the health of the town. 4th. An annual increase of Rs 25,000 to the revenue of the Municipality. 5th. There will be a sufficient pressure and supply of water in the mains at all times to aid in extinguishing fires. This will be of incalculable benefit, as it will prevent the repetition of a catastrophe, similar to that which happened in Don Tar 2nd Row, a few months ago. These are some of the advantages to be gained by the proposed reservoir, and they are of no mean character; but are of vast magnitude to the health and comfort and safety of the town. This scheme was recommended by Major Tulloch and has, I believe been kept in abeyance only on financial grounds as appears from Mr. Pedder's letter to Government in para. 29 of page 19 of Mr. Brahman's report. Such substantial benefits ought to be secured at any price. When we have sanctioned nearly a crore of rupees to be spent between the Vehar and Tulsi water works, it would be a great pity that such noble works should remain defective for want of another five or six lacs of rupees. I am fully alive to the fact that the present financial position of the Municipality does not admit of our undertaking any new works, but considerations bearing on the health and the safety of the lives and property of our fellow-townsmen ought to prevail over all others. We should therefore try to pinch ourselves in some other respects with the view of saving a lac of rupees per annum to enable us to carry out a work of such paramount importance.

As an amendment, it was proposed by Mr. Bomonjee Pestonjee Master, That the Town Council be good enough to reconsider their decision on this point and try to save a lakh of rupees per annum, by making reductions in some direction to enable the Corporation to carry out the construction of the Bhunderwarra Reservoir.

Mr. D. S. Kemp seconded the amendment, and spoke at some length in favour of putting Mr. Braham's scheme into speedy execution.

Mr. N. Spencer—I don't see the amendment makes any addition to the original proposition. The scheme is to be carried out when the funds allow.

Mr. Bomonjee—The funds should be found somehow or other.

Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee—The Town Council have fully considered the subject.

Captain Henry said he should be happy to support the immediate construction of the reservoir; but they must remember that they were but a young Municipality and must try to follow the wise maxim that a child should learn to crawl before it is able to walk. (Cheers.) He should recommend that they now finish the great Tulsi water scheme before they incurred any expenditure for the service reservoir.

The amendment, on being put to the vote, was lost, and Captain Henry's original proposition was carried.

THE HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT.

It was proposed by Dr. Blaney, seconded by Captain H. Morland, and carried, That the Health Officer's report for the second quarter of 1876 be recorded.

Dr. Blaney said the report was a short one, but it was full of interest. During the quarter under report, the death-rate was 1,000 lower than that of the previous quarter. Since the date of the report, the health of the town had continued to improve.

OTHER MATTERS.

The following propositions were then made and adopted:—

Proposed by Mr. Ardasir Framjee Moos, seconded by Mr. K. R. Cama, and carried, That the list of reappropriations, &c., amounting to Rs. 1,644-10-4, made during the quarter by the Town Council, as reported in the secretary's letter No. 34 of 1877, be recorded together with the list of temporary advances on account of the New Water Works.

Proposed by Mr. E. Freeborn, seconded by Mr. Bomonjee Pestonjee, and carried, That sanction be given to the payments made from the cash balance from the 1st October to 31st December 1876 on account of liabilities incurred in 1875, amounting to Rs. 48,933-8-5, as reported in the Chief Accountant's letter to the Municipal Commissioner, No. 37—59 of 1877.

Proposed by Mr. Rahimtoola M. Sayani, seconded by Mr. Hajee Visram, and carried, That the letter to the Chief Secretary to Government, General Department, dated 20th November 1876, from Mr. W. G. Pedder, C. S., and the Hon'ble E. W. Ravenscroft, C. S. I., stating that they that day, before office hours, respectively delivered over and received charge of the office of Municipal Commissioner for the city of Bombay be recorded.

Proposed by Captain Henry, and seconded by Mr. R. N. Khote, That the letter from the Chief Secretary to Government, No. 3592 of 1876, General Department, forwarding copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, relative to the acceptance by Her Majesty of the address of the Corporation on her assumption of the title of "Empress of India" be recorded.

Proposed by Mr. Cowasjee Manockjee Limjee, and seconded by Mr. Bomonjee Pestonjee, That the letter from the Municipal Commissioner, No. 7608 of 1876, stating that at the election held on the 22nd November of 1876, Javerila Umiashanker Yajnik, Esq. was elected a member of the Municipal Corporation in the room of Byramjee Jejeebhoy, Esq., C.S.I., resigned, be recorded.

Proposed by Mr. Bhugwandas Purshotumdas, and seconded by Mr. Bomonjee Pestonjee, That the letter from A. J. Macdonald, Esq., dated 23rd December 1876, resigning his post as a member of the Corporation, be recorded.

Proposed by Mr. N. Spencer, and seconded by Colonel Thacker, That the copy of the address presented to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India on the occasion of his landing in Bombay on the 16th December 1876, and his reply thereto, be recorded.

THE PUNCHAYETWADY WELL CASE AGAIN.

The Chairman said before they dispersed, he would state for their information, at the request of the Municipal Commissioner, that the matter of the above-mentioned well would have been put in the list of business for this meeting, but was not put as there was no time to give the necessary seven days' notice. The well is a public one, and the Municipal Commissioner had made certain arrangements with the Maharaj who lives in the neighbourhood, to which, however, Hurrivullubdas Culliandass and other residents objected. Since then, a notice had been received from the latter that a suit would be filed in the High Court against the Municipal Commissioner. An injunction had also been applied for and obtained, and the work had in consequence been stopped. The solicitors of the Corporation had advised that the case should be fought out. A case had been meanwhile submitted for counsel's opinion, and the result would be laid before the Corporation.

Mr. Bomonjee—Is this only for the information of the Corporation, or something else?

The Chairman—Only for the information of the Corporation, at the request of the Municipal Commissioner.

Mr. Bomonjee—I am sorry the Municipal Commissioner is absent: he was also absent at the previous meeting. According to the Act, his presence is necessary at the Corporation meetings.

The Chairman—The meeting is dissolved.

PANTOMIME AT GRANT ROAD THEATRE—AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE.

THIS afternoon there will be a performance at the Grant Road Theatre of the Pantomime of "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," for the convenience of schools and children. The performance will commence at half-past three o'clock. The theatre will be darkened and the gas lighted, so as to make the performance as much like that at night as possible. Doubtless many parents, who wish to show their children the fun of a pantomime, will be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity to do so and thus avoid the fatigue of late hours.

MEETING OF THE JUSTICES.

ELECTION OF A MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

AT a meeting of H. M. Justices of the Peace, held yesterday afternoon in the Town Hall, Mr. C. P. Cooper, in the chair, the following matter was disposed of, namely—the election of a member of the Municipal Corporation, in the room of Mr. A. J. Macdonald resigned.

Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee—I beg to propose Mr. J. M. Maclean as a member of the Corporation in place of Mr. Macdonald. Gentlemen, you all know, Mr. Maclean so well that I need not say anything at length in support of my proposition. Mr. Maclean's great ability and the deep interest he has always shown in the affairs of our Municipality point him out as one of the fittest men for a seat on the Corporation. We have had abundant experience in the past of the services rendered by Mr. Maclean in the meetings of the Justices, as well as of the present Corporation, and in electing Mr. Maclean as a member of the Corporation we are really adding to the strength and influence of that important body. Mr. Maclean resigned his seat on the Corporation when he went to Europe a few months ago, and it is a matter for congratulation that a vacancy has so soon occurred, and that we are able to show him our appreciation of his services by electing him to the first vacant seat.

Mr. Raghunath Narayen Khote, in seconding the proposition, said that he had much pleasure in supporting it with his vote; and in doing so, he would remark that Mr. Maclean, when he was a member of the Municipal Corporation and of the Town Council had rendered many intelligent, useful and important services in the deliberations of all questions of importance that were brought before them for disposal. He (Mr. Khote,) added that he had simply to bring to the notice of the meeting the fact of Mr. Maclean having been useful to the civic government of this place, outside the meetings of the Corporation and the Council, inasmuch as it was he who had prepared that masterly memorial to H. M. Secretary of State remonstrating against the withdrawal of the police contribution by the Bombay Government. It was also he who had been good enough to draw up addresses that were presented by the Corporation to the august personages who had done this city the honour of a visit within the last eighteen months. Mr. Raghunath said that he was now rather addressing his native friends at the meeting, not to allow their vote to be influenced by the paragraphs that sometimes appeared in the columns of the *Bombay Gazette*, in which the writer had run down the natives and everything that was native. [Mr. Dosabhoy.] Not everything native! He (Mr. Khote) wished his friends to look to the other side of the question, namely—his past usefulness to the civic government of this city, and he felt no doubt but that his usefulness in the future would be marked with the same intelligence and zeal. (Cheers).

The proposition having been put to the vote, was unanimously carried.

REGISTERED No. 1—1877.

The Bombay Gazette.

[With Supplement.

No. 8,721.—New Series. BOMBAY :—SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1877.

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STEAM TO LONDON FROM KURRACHEE, CALLING AT ADEN, HODEIDA, JEDDAH, ALGHERS, AND LISBON.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), will despatch the s. s. JAVA, 1465 Tons, 200 H. P., Commander F. Corron, as above, from Kurrachee, on SATURDAY, the 10th February 1877.

The Java is fitted in the usual style of the Company's vessels, and has excellent accommodation for 31 First-class Passengers and 12 Second-class.

The Steamers leaving Bombay on FRIDAY, the 2nd February and on TUESDAY, the 6th idem, for Kurrachee, can carry forward Cargo and Passengers for transfer to the Java.

For Freight or Passage apply to

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 20th December 1876.

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THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under contract with Government, will despatch the s. s. SIR JOHN LAURENCE, 700 Tons, 130 H.P., Commander Baldwin on TUESDAY, the 23rd January 1877, at 4 P.M., calling at Ratnagherry, Vingorla, Goa, Carwar, Mangalore, Cannanore, Tellicherry, Calicut, Beypore, Cochin, Alleppey, Tuticorin, Colombo, Manaargulam, Negapatam, Pondicherry, Madras, Coconada, Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam, Gopalore, False Point and at any other place where inducement offers.

Cargo for Singapore and China can be booked fortnightly by the steamers on this line hence or from intermediate ports for transhipment at Galle to the Steamers of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes de la France which run regularly.

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THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Mail Contract with Government, will despatch the s. s. CALCUTTA, 863 Tons, 130 H. P., Commander T. P. Nairne, on FRIDAY, the 26th January, 1877, at 4 P.M., to the PERSIAN GULF, touching at KURRACHEE MUSCAT, BUNDERABBAS, LINGA, BUSHIRE, FAO, BUSSREH, and occasionally at BAHREIN and MAHOMMERAH

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BI-WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Mail Contract with Government, will, during the Fair Season, despatch a Steamer to Kurrachee every FRIDAY, at 4 P.M., and an Extra Steamer on every TUESDAY, at 10 A.M.

The s.s. COCONADA, 862 Tons, 130 H. P., Commander A. Monnie, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 23rd January 1877, at 10 A.M., calling at Verawul, Pore Bunder, Mangrole and Gutch Mandvie.

The s.s. CALCUTTA, 863 Tons, 130 H. P., Commander T.P. Nairne will be despatched on FRIDAY, the 26th January 1877, at 4 P.M.

N.B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

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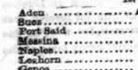
STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH ITALY via SUEZ CANAL.



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	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	
Aden	£22	£15	£4	Without Food.
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Children under 3 years—free of charge. Children not above years—half fare.

NEXT STEAMERS FROM BOMBAY :—

RATAVIA to sail on THURSDAY, 1st February 1877.
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INDIA, to sail on THURSDAY, 15th March 1877.
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All Steamers of this Company have large First and Second Class accommodation; and always carry a Doctor and a Stewardess on board.

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For hand-books of information, rates of freight, &c., apply to

C. GRONDONA,
Agent Rubattino Steam Navigation Company,
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bay, 20th December 1876.

RUBATTINO S N. COMPANY.

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EXTRA STEAMERS TO NAPLES, LIVORNO, AND GENOA.

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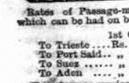

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do. do. 21st March „
do. do. 18th April „
do. do. 10th May „

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28, Bombay Green, 11th January 1877.

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W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

THE following or other first-class Vessels will be despatched for EUROPE :—

Vessels.	Tons.	H.P.	Captains.	Jan. 1877.
MALWA	2593	450	P. S. Tomlin	22nd—Suez, &c.
TIBET	2593	400	N. Stewart	29th—Southampton.
				Feb. 1877.
NIZAM	2725	450	A. E. Barlow	5th—Suez, &c.
SURAT	3141	530	G. C. Barne	12th—Southampton.
TEHERAN	2589	400	A. H. Johnson.	19th—Suez, &c.
CATHAY	2982	450	R. J. Dundas	26th—Southampton.
				Mar. 1877.
VENETIA	2736	450	R. Ashdown	5th—Suez, &c.
PEKIN	2727	600	W. Woolcott	12th—Southampton.
SUMATRA	2488	450	C. Anderson	19th—Suez, &c.
MONGOLIA	2833	530	A. Coleman	26th—Southampton.

Passengers are booked to Malta, Gibraltar, and Southampton by every Mail. The Southampton Steamers proceed to that port direct; but by the alternate Steamers Passengers change vessels at Suez.

Passengers to Brindisi, Ancona, and Venice are carried by every Steamer, but proceed by rail from Suez to Alexandria.

Heavy Baggage must be sent to Mazagon on the day of the Steamer's departure, before 10 A.M., in order that it may be weighed and labelled previous to shipment.

A small Steamer will leave the New Dock Head at Mazagon, at 3 P.M. precisely, on the day of sailing.

GEORGE F. HENRY, Superintendent.

Bombay, 4th January 1877.

STEAM TO CEYLON, PENANG, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

On TUESDAY, the 23rd Jan. 1877, at 3 P.M., from Mazagon.

THE P. and O. Co.'s S.S. TRAVANCORE (1,900 Tons and 350 H. P.), Captain W. Barratt, will be despatched as above, carrying H. M.'s Mails, and taking also Passengers and Cargo for Madras and Calcutta.

No Cargo will be received on board after sunset on the day previous to sailing, and no brokerage will be allowed on any chest of Opium, the Officer's receipt for which is not lodged in the Company's Office before Noon, on SATURDAY, the 20th January 1877.

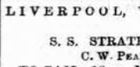
GEORGE F. HENRY,
Bombay, 9th Jan. 1877. Superintendent.

"WILSON" LINE.

FOR LIVERPOOL, *VIA* SUEZ CANAL. S.S. XANTHO, 1,800 Tons.

TO LEAVE ABOUT 25TH JANUARY.

TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE YEDDO EARLY IN FEB.



THE above Vessel will have despatch, as above. She has excellent accommodation amidships for First-Class Passengers only.

Rates of Passage Money, exclusive of Wines and Spirits, which can be had on board.

FIRST CLASS ..... Rs. 450

For Passage and further particulars apply to

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co.
W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 11th January 1877.

LIVERPOOL, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

S. S. STRATHLEVEN, 2,300 Tons.
C. W. Pearson, Commander.

TO SAIL 10TH MARCH POSITIVELY.

THIS New and Splendid Steamer will have despatch as above, and is expected to make a quick passage. She has been built expressly for the Indian Trade, and has excellent accommodation for Passengers, both on the Main Deck and in a Saloon built on Deck.

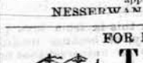
FARE TO LIVERPOOL—Rs. 500.

Exclusive of Wines, &c, which can be procured on board at moderate prices. For passage and further particulars apply to

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co.
W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

Bombay, January 1877.

FOR CALCUTTA.



TO Sail on or before 21st January. The S/3 L 11 Ship CORA. For Freight apply to

FARNHAM & Co.,
Elphinstone Circle.

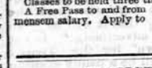
STEAM TO CALCUTTA.

TO SAIL ABOUT 15TH FEBRUARY.

THE S. S. BORDER CHIEFTAIN, 990 Tons Net Register, is expected to be ready for Cargo about 6th February. For Freight apply to

NESSERWANJEE MANOCKJEE & Co.

FOR RANGOON.



THE S. S. KING RICHARD. For Freight and Passage apply to

JOSEPH SOARES,
Agent, 26, Apollo Street.

WANTED.

WANTED, a small LITHOGRAPHIC PRESS complete; a second-hand Press not objected to if in good working order.

Apply stating price, to "A. Z." care of this paper.

Bombay, 18th January 1877.

WANTED, for an EVENING SCHOOL at Parell, a COMPETENT TEACHER of Arithmetic and Free Hand and Mechanical Drawing.

Classes to be held three times in each week from 6 to 8 P.M.

A Free Pass to and from Fort will be given and Rs. 100 per mensem salary. Apply to

F. MATHEW,
Agent and Chief Engineer.

BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY.

HOUSES TO LET.

MATHERAN.

THE BUNGALOWS TO LET for HOT SEASON, known as follows :—

ROZARIO'S HOUSE. Rent Rs. 400. Accommodation : 2 Bedrooms, 2 Dressing-rooms, 2 Bath-rooms and Drawing and Dining-rooms in one.

WADIA LODGE. Rent Rs. 400. Accommodation : 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bath-rooms and Drawing and Dining-rooms in one.

WALKER'S COTTAGE. Rent Rs. 400. Accommodation : 2 Bed-rooms, 2 Bath-rooms and Drawing and Dining-rooms in one.

CAMA COTTAGE. Rent Rs. 450. Accommodation : 2 Bed-rooms 2 Dressing-rooms, 2 Bath-rooms and Sitting and Dining-rooms.

THE KEEPSAKE. Rent Rs. 300. Accommodation : 1 Bedroom, 2 Bath-rooms and 1 Sitting-room.

THE FOLLY, an excellent Upstair BUNGALOW. Rent Rs. 1,000 per year in advance. Accommodation : 4 Bed-rooms and 4 Bath-rooms; up-stairs: 2 Bed-rooms and 2 Bath-rooms, besides Sitting and Dining-rooms Downstairs.

Apply to

J. C. PINTO,
Proprietor Alexandra Hotel.

NOW READY.

THE SECOND EDITION OF

MACLEAN'S GUIDE TO BOMBAY.

PRICE RUPEES FIVE.

IN ONE HANDSOME VOLUME CLOTH BOUND CONTAINING UPWARDS OF FIVE HUNDRED PAGES.

THE GUIDE contains an increased amount of local and general information, corrected to the latest practicable date; while the whole contents of the work are carefully revised and re-arranged, and made as correct and trustworthy as possible.

THE INDIAN JURIST.

A LEGAL PUBLICATION
For the 3 Presidencies of India.
The Indian (late Madras) Jurist.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

		Cash.	*Credit.*
To The Indian Jurist	(24 Nos.)	Rs. 20	Rs. 24
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Single Copy, One Rupee.

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Part I. will be published on the 1st of each Month.
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From 1st January, 1877.

This Periodical of 80 Pages Monthly, is the

CHEAPEST PUBLICATION IN INDIA.

No Judge, Advocate, or Pleader, should be without it.

Subscribers favouring the Editor with a "Leading Article will find the *Honorarium* liberal.

Every Subscriber will, from time to time, have it in his power to forward something of legal interest for publication in the *Indian Jurist*, and such aid is earnestly solicited, as without it the ordinary Reports of Cases in the Indian Courts are insufficient for 80 pages monthly—and even in Law, variety is charming.

Agents { Messrs. Thacker, Vining, & Co..... Bombay. / „ Thacker, Spink, & Co..... Calcutta. / „ Peake, Allen, & Co..... Lucknow. / „ John & Co..... Allahabad. / „ C. Foster & Co..... Madras. / Mr. W. Bull..... Lahore.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TOWN HALL.

TO-NIGHT, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH,
FOR THE BENEFIT OF
THE MEDIUM,
AND POSITIVELY HIS LAST APPEARANCE IN INDIA,
When he will be assisted by
LOUIS FRANK.

On this occasion will be performed for the first time in India Concerted pieces on the
PIANOFORTE AND STRINGED ORCHESTRION.
MONS. BOURDOIN AND MR. A. BRODIE.

The first part of the Entertainment will comprise
SLEIGHT-OF-HAND TRICKS,
NEVER BEFORE PERFORMED IN INDIA.
A DOMESTIC HINT—HOW TO MAKE EGGS.
THE WITCH'S POLE, OR THE OBEDIENT CARDS.
Dr FAUST'S DECANTERS: THE DISSOLVING BIRD.
JAPANESE HANDKERCHIEF & LEMON.
MELTING COINS AND TUMBLERS.
THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELS OF A BANK-NOTE.
THE FLYING PACK OF INDIA RUBBER CARDS.
WONDERFUL DISAPPEARANCE OF A CAGE OF CANARIES.
THE MYSTERIOUS TREASURY IN THE AIR, OR HOW TO MAKE MONEY,
LOUIS FRANK
Will instruct the audience in
NATURAL MAGIC,
Performing some Sleight-of-Hand Tricks and showing "How they are done."

SECOND PART.
CAPRICCIO FOR PIANOFORTE,
With variations for the left Hand,
MONS. BOURDOIN.
"LA ROSE"..... Valse with variations ..... O'METRA
PIANOFORTE AND STRINGED ORCHESTRION.
MONS. BOURDOIN AND MR. A. BRODIE.

THE THIRD PART WILL CONSIST OF
SPIRIT MANIFESTATIONS,
INTRODUCING THE KING FAMILY,
and
TABLE TURNING EXTRAORDINARY,

Reserved Seats ..... Rs. 2 | Unreserved Seats...Rs. 1
Back Seats ..... Eight Annas.

Reserved Seats may be secured at Messrs. SOUNDY & Co. Carriages may be ordered at 11.

Doors open at 8-30. Performance commences at 9.

Tram Cars to Byculla and Colaba after the Performance.

A TREAT FOR CHILDREN
WILL BE GIVEN BY
DR. LYNN'S MEDIUM
AT THE
TOWN HALL, THIS AFTERNOON,
JANUARY 20TH, AT 4 O'CLOCK.
HUNDREDS OF BON BONS
Will be distributed from the
INEXHAUSTIBLE HAT.

ADMISSION—For Children and their servants 4 annas each to any part.

Schools numbering not less than 20 Children will have their Tram Fares paid to and from the Hall.

THEATRE ROYAL,
GRANT ROAD.
STAR COMPANY.

TO-NIGHT, SATURDAY, 20TH JANUARY.

GREAT SUCCESS OF THE
GRAND CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME,
HARLEQUIN ALI BABA
AND THE FORTY THIEVES!
Written and adapted for this Company by
Mr. M. COMERFORD.

NEW SCENERY, NEW DRESSES,
NEW SONGS, NEW DANCES,
NEW ACT DROP,
AND
MAGNIFICENT TRANSFORMATION SCENE
AND
ORIGINAL COMIC SCENES.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.
Dress Circle, Rs. 3; Stalls, Rs. 2; Gallery, Rs. 1.
PIT, EIGHT ANNAS.
Seats can be secured at Messrs. SOUNDY and Co.
Doors open at 8-30. Performance to commence at 9.

THIS AFTERNOON,
SATURDAY, 20TH JANUARY.
AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE
OF THE
CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME
FOR
FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS.

SPECIAL PRICES OF ADMISSION.
DRESS CIRCLE.
Children..... Re. 1 | Adults..... Rs. 2
ALL OTHER PARTS OF THE HOUSE
Children ..... 8 Annas | Adults..... Rs. 1
Doors open at 3; performance to commence at 3-30.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

ANCHOR LINE—INDIAN SERVICE.
S. S. INDIA,
CAPTAIN GEORGE READ.
BOMBAY TO NAPLES AND LIVERPOOL.

THE above Steamer will sail from Bombay on the 14th February positively.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY.

TO NAPLES...Rs. 400. TO LIVERPOOL...Rs. 500.

Passengers disembarking at Naples can have their heavy Luggage taken on to Liverpool without any extra charge.

For any further particulars apply to

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 19th January 1877.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the Mint up to the 1st February for the PURCHASE of a BOILER and DONKEY ENGINE now lying in the Mint premises. Particulars may be obtained of the FOREMAN.

J. H. WHITE,
Lieut.-Col. R. E.,
Officiating Mint Master.

H. M.'s Mint, Bombay, 19th January 1877.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.—TENDERS are hereby invited by the MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER for the CITY of BOMBAY for certain works in connection with ENLARGING and IMPROVING the SLUICES at the LOVE GROVE PUMPING STATION.

Drawings can be inspected at the Office of the Undersigned, where also copies of Specification, Conditions of Contract, and Bill of Quantities can be obtained on payment of Rs. 5 for each set.

Tenders must be sealed and endorsed "Tenders for enlarging, &c. the Love Grove Sluices," and must be sent to the address of "The Hon'ble E. W. RAVENSCROFT, C. S. I., Municipal Commissioner," not later than the 6th proximo.

The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order of the Municipal Commissioner,
RIENZI WALTON, C. E.,
Executive Engineer Municipality, on Special Duty.
Executive Municipal Engineer's Office, Bombay, 19th Jan. 1877.

FURTHER REDUCTION OF PRICES.

JUST PUBLISHED.

TREACHER AND COMPANY'S *Revised Price List* of WINES, SPIRITS, LIQUEURS, and BEER.

Copies on application.

BOMBAY, BYCULLA & POONA.

QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY,

GREAT REDUCTION IN RATES FOR LIFE ASSURANCE IN INDIA.

REDUCED RATES for Assurance of CIVILIANS Resident in India, and for MILITARY MEN in Civil employ.

FOR Rs. 1,000 ON A SINGLE LIFE FOR THE WHOLE TERM THEREOF. *WITHOUT PROFITS.*

Age.	Yearly.	Age.	Yearly.	Age.	Yearly.	Age.	Yearly.
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
20	25 9 4	24	26 14 8	28	28 10 0	32	30 13 4
21	25 14 0	25	27 5 4	29	29 2 8	33	31 6 8
22	26 3 4	26	27 12 0	30	29 11 4	34	32 1 4
23	26 8 8	27	28 2 8	31	30 4 0	35	32 11 4

BOMBAY.
MEDICAL REFEREE—JAMES ARNOTT, Esq., M.D.
AGENTS.—KILLICK, NIXON & Co.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

WATCHMAKER WANTED—A PRACTICAL EUROPEAN, experienced in Cleaning and Repairs. Apply to SOUNDY & Co.

FOR SALE, a COTTAGE PIANO, 7 Octaves, by E. W. HOLMAN. Apply to W. J. ESSAI, corner of Meadow and Forbes Street, Fort.

FOR SALE, a set of SECOND-HAND ENGLISH DOUBLE HARNESS, in good order. For Price, &c. apply at this Office.

A SPLENDID DISSOLVING VIEW APPARATUS (complete) with 92 Slides, FOR SALE. Rare opportunity. Apply ROSE & Co., Rampart Row.

PROCLAMATION DAY, Jan. 1st, 1877—The VIEW 12 by 15 is now ready for inspection at P. Vecchi & Co.'s Studio, Meadow Street. As only a limited number of copies will be printed, subscribers' names can now be registered.

TREACHER & COMPANY, LD., WINE MERCHANTS.

BY APPOINTMENT.

ESTABLISHED IN THIS PRESIDENCY FOR HALF A CENTURY.

AGENCIES IN THE CONTINENTAL WINE DISTRICTS AT

XEREZ.	AVIZE.	BORDEAUX.
ALTO DOURO.	EPERNAY.	COGNAC.
MADEIRA	RHEIMS.	COBLENTZ.

LONDON OFFICES: 38A, KING WILLIAM STREET.
HEAD OFFICE AND GODOWNS:—BYCULLA, BOMBAY.

CONSTITUENTS and intending Purchasers are respectfully solicited to test the quality of our Brands when comparing the quotations with those of competing Houses, and also to note that these include LOSS BY EXCHANGE, IMPORT AND TOWN DUTIES, AND ALL OTHER CHARGES, BEING FREE DELIVERY FROM OUR GODOWNS.

FURTHER REDUCTION OF PRICES. JAN. 1877.

SHERRIES.

	Per Dozen Quarts.	Pints.
AMONTILLADO, superior, very old and choice	Rs. 37 0	...
OLOROSO, pale soft, fine flavour	37 0	...
MANZANILLA, very dry and pale, unsurpassed for delicacy and purity	29 0	...
GOLDEN, a rich nutty-flavoured Dessert Wine	29 0	...
OLD DRY, very superior, soft and dry	29 0	...

	Per Dozen. Quarts.	Pints.
VINO DE PASTO, a good generous Dinner WINE	Rs. 26 0	...
PALE DINNER, an excellent light Wine for general use	23 8	...
YELLOW SEAL, pale and light	17 0	...
MARSALA	16 0	...
MADEIRA, E. India, selected, old and very fine	31 0	...

PORTS.

SUPERIOR OLD, tawny, with fine Bouquet and character	Rs. 32	0	17 8	FINE OLD, possessing good body and flavour	Rs. 27 0	15 0
				WHITE SEAL, rich and fruity	19 0	...

CHAMPAGNES.

F. GIESLER & Co.'s "for India" brand	Rs. 46	0	24 8	DRY SILLERY	40	0	21 8
PERRIER JOUET & Co.'s do.	„ 46	0	24 8	SUPERIOR SPARKLING SAUMUR	28	0	15 8

STILL HOCKS.

JOHANNISBERG	Rs. 41	0	23 0	STEINWEIN (Glass Jugs)	Rs. 23	8	...
LIEBFRAUMILCH	„ 36	0	19 0	LAUBENHEIM	„ 17	8	9 8
NIERSTEIN	„ 26	0	14 0	GIESENHEIM	„ 20	0	11 0
HOCHHEIM	„ 25	0	13 8				

SPARKLING HOCKS.

FINEST SPARKLING EHRENBRETSTEIN	Rs. 42	0	23 0	SUPERIOR SPARKLING	Rs. 34		18 8

STILL MOSELLES.

SCHARZBERG	Rs. 33	0	18 0	MUSCATEL MOSELLE	Rs. ...		14 0
SUPERIOR MOSELLE	„ 27	0	14 8	WINNINGEN	„ 20	0	...

SPARKLING MOSELLES.

FINEST SPARKLING NONPAREIL	Rs. 40	0	22 0	FINE SPARKLING	Rs. 32	0	...
SUPERIOR SPARKLING	„ 34	0	19 0				

CLARETS.

BORDEAUX { Excellent Cup or	Rs. 10	0	...	CHATEAU LAGRANGE	Rs. 21	0	11 8
PETIT MEDOCK { Breakfast Wines	„ 12	8	7 4	CHATEAU LA ROSE { Superior after	26	0	14 8
MEDOCK, Superior	„ 15	8	9 0	CHATEAU MARGAUX { Dinner Wines	31	0	16 8

SAUTERNES.

HAUT SAUTERNES, very rich and fine	Rs. 30	0	...	BARSAC, light Table Wine	Rs. 18	0	...
SAUTERNES, delicate flavour	„ 22	0	...				

STILL BURGUNDIES.

CHAMBERTIN	Rs. 28	0	15 0	BEAUNE	Rs. 18	0	10 0
POMMARD	„ 24	0	13 0	CHABLIS	„ 16	0	...
MACON	„ 22	0	12 0				

SPARKLING BURGUNDIES.

SPARKLING BURGUNDY, Red, a rich fruity Wine	Rs. 38	0	21 0	SPARKLING BURGUNDY, White, a rich fruity Wine	Rs. 38	0	21 0

COGNAC, Fine Old Pale, Treacher's celebrated Heart labelled, a choice matured Spirit	Rs. 30	0	...	WHISKEY, Irish, Kinahan's celebrated L. L.	22	8	...
COGNAC, Old Pale	„ 27	0	...	WHISKEY, Scotch; Crabbie's	Rs. 20	0	...
COGNAC, Pale, a good Peg Brandy	„ 23	0	...	Do. Fine Old Glenlivet (Treacher's special blend)	22	8	...
GIN, London Old Tom	„ 18	0	...	HENNESSY'S BRANDY	„ 38	0	...
HOLLANDS GENEVA, per case of 15 large flasks (De Kuyper's)	„ 27	0	...	Do. do. **	„ 32	0	...
RUM, Finest Old Jamaica	„ 22	8	...	Do. do. ***	„ 34	0	...
				MOUNIE'S Vine Leaf do.	„ 37	0	...
				MARTELL'S do.	„ 37	0	...
				EXSHAW'S No. 1 do.	„ 37	0	...

LIQUEURS AND BITTERS.

CURACAO, Amsterdam, Orange or White per bottle.	3	12	2 0	VERMOUTH per bottle.	1	4	...
MARASCHINO DI ZARA, (the finest) „	3	8	2 0	FREEMASON'S LIQUEUR „			1 12
CHERRY BRANDY, best Copenhagen „	2	12	1 8	GINGER WINE per dozen	17	0	...
CHARTREUSE from the { Green „	7	0	3 12	ORANGE WINE „			...
Yellow „	5	8	3 0	ORANGE BITTERS „	18	0	10 0
Monastery „	3	12	...	ANGOSTURA BITTERS „			24 0
GOLD WATER, Dantzig Brandy „	3	12	...	POMALO & ORANGE BITTERS CONCENTRATED,			
CREME DE NOYEAU, best „	3	0	1 12	TREACHER & Co.'s „	¼ Pints.	...	12 0
CREME DE CITRONELLE „	3	0	...	BRANDY BITTERS			
CREME DE ROSE „	3	0	1 12	WINE BITTERS			
CREME DE VANILLE „	3	0	1 12				
ANISETTE „	3	0	...				

BOMBAY, BYCULLA & POONA.

FIRST CLASS ENGLISH HOSIERY.

From the best Manufacturers of
Nottingham, Leicester and Derby.

CASH PRICE LIST.

GENTS' BANIANS.

	Rs.	A.
Fine Gauze Merino	Six. 14	0
Superfine Saxony „	21	0
Best Super A. & Co.'s Special-make, shrinkless „	27	0
Summer Merino, medium substance „	36	0
Real India Gauze „	40	0
Warranted Half Silk „	45	0
Shetland Merino Long Sleeves for Cold Districts	6	0
Scotch Shetland Lambswool for Overland Passengers	7	8

GENTS' DRAWERS.

Fine Dressed Cotton	3	12
Fine Dressed Cotton Trunk, for Riding, fitting closely above the knee	4	12
Fine Summer Merino	7	8
Fine Summer Merino, Spliced	7	8
Double Riding Seats	6	8
Stout Grey Shetland for Travellers	6	8
Bathing Drawers per pair	2	0

GENTS' COTTON SOCKS.
Double Feet and Heels.

		Rs.	A.
Fine Brown Cotton	Doz.	9	8
Super „ „	„	13	8
Fine Fancy Colours	„	15	0
Extra Super „	„	18	0
Best Fancy Stripes	„	19	0
Best Lisle Thread	„	28	0
Real Balbriggan	„	30	0

KNICKBOCKERS.
For Sportsmen.

Ribbed Merino	per pair.	5	8
Stout Knitt	„	5	8
Stout Knit

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

FRIDAY EVENING, 19TH JAN. 1877.

THE funds in London yesterday were very strong, Consols having advanced from 95¼ to 95⅝ and French Rentes from 106½ to 106¾, but this was evidently in ignorance of the important news which we have received by wire from Constantinople. The Turkish Government have now taken up an attitude which admits of no misconception, and unless Russia the entire programme which she put forward before the assembling of the Conference, there can be no doubt that a war between Russia and Turkey is unavoidable. How far England will be affected in that event it is difficult as yet to say, but the impression on most people's minds seems to be that it will be impossible for her to remain aloof. In business circles here the news has had an instantaneous effect. A feeling had got about that war was at the outside but a remote possibility, and lately, distant operations were being entered upon on that basis, but the changed aspect of affairs to-day has caused almost an entire suspension of transactions. Sellers of cereals and such commodities as are likely to be enhanced in value by a war have at once put up their prices, while in Cotton and articles likely to be adversely affected, they await the result on the Home markets before conceding anything in prices. Buyers, all round, seem to prefer holding aloof until they can see their way more clearly.

The Liverpool Cotton Market yesterday closed quiet, sales 10,000 bales, spot quotations showing a decline of 1/16d. per lb. in Fair Dhollera, Omrawuttee, and Mid. Orleans. Reuter does not mention arrivals, but private telegrams advise sellers but no buyers at the quotations we gave yesterday. The receipts at the American ports yesterday were again small, but not only, as we have previously mentioned, is there a belief that next week will see a considerable increase in this respect, but we have now the probability that the warlike appearance of things on the Continent will over-ride all other influences and cause a further decline in prices.

Yesterday's telegrams from New York quote Mid. Uplands on the spot unchanged at 13½ cents, but Futures are 3-16 cents. higher, May shipment having advanced from 13 11-16 to 13¾ cents per lb. The receipts at the ports show the following comparisons :—

	1877	1876	1875
This week.	17,000	20,000	15,000
Last week.	79,000	121,000	84,000
Thursday's Receipts...	13,000	15,000	20,000
Six days' do	93,000	84,000	121,000
Total since 1st Sept.	2,872,000	.....	2,767,000

The Manchester Piece Goods Market yesterday was quiet but steady. Reuter's statement of the shipments of Piece Goods and Yarns from the U. K. to India during the first fortnight of the current month gives most limited figures for Calcutta in all descriptions and for Bombay small quantities of Plain Cottons, but full averags supplies of Coloured and Printed Cottons and Twist. The fortnightly figures, however, are not very reliable guides, the period being too limited to give a fair idea of the trade.

In the London General Produce Markets we notice a further decline of 1s. per cwt. in Coffee. Cocoanut Oil and Seeds are unchanged.

The weekly quotations for Metals indicate no change in Copper or Yellow Metal, but Silesian Spelter is 5s. per ton lower.

The Bank of England return for the week shows a further decrease in strength, the Reserve of Notes being less by £600,000 and Bullion by the same amount while Discounts have increased by £200,000. The proportion of the Reserve to Liabilities is down to 44½ per cent., but the rate of discount on 6 months' sight Bank Bills is said to be only ½ per cent. above the Bank minimum, or 2½ per cent. A further withdrawal of £50,000 for Germany is reported since the return was made up.

Enfaced Rupee Paper in London is somewhat irregular. Fours are unaltered at 89 ; Fours-and-a-half have declined from 89¼ to 89 ; while Fives-and-a-half are recovered from 91 to 92.

Bar Silver is reported by Reuter at 58 1/16d. and some private messages are said to quote 58¼d., but the price concerns us less on this side now that we know it to be regulated by our own Exchanges. Yesterday's P. and O. steamer from Southampton brings £228,000—and £51,000 in Gold—making a total of £849,000 in Silver and £106,000 in Gold from Southampton alone, in addition to which there is probably a large amount on the way from Venice. When we take this in conjunction with the fact of the Bombay and Calcutta Mints holding 3½ millions sterling of uncoined Silver between them irrespective of the large sums which have gone and still are going to China, it becomes little short of an absurdity to talk of any scarcity of the Metal.

STERLING EXCHANGE to-day has been quiet but steady at yesterday's closing rates. The warehouses contain, it is said, but few Bills, and there are very few House Bills offering, while the demand for Remittance is about equally small. We quote :—

Bank Bills, on demand	.....	1s. 10 3-16d. per Rupee.
Do.	6 months' sight...	1s. 10¼d. "
Credits,	3 "	1s. 10¼d. "
Documents,	3 "	1s. 10¼ to 9-16d. "

On Calcutta we have not heard of any transactions in demand drafts and we call the quotation 5-16 to ¾ premium nominal. In 60 days' sight some little business has been done at 1¼ per cent. discount.

GOVERNMENT PAPER is rendered almost unquotable by the news from Home. Transactions are said to have taken place in Fours at Rs. 95½ and Rs. 96, but we should call the latter the nominal rate. Fours-and-a-half may be quoted at Rs 96 ; Fives-and-a-half at par.

The SHARE MARKET like everything else has been rendered dull to a degree by the telegrams from Constantinople. Bank of Bombays have receded 1½ per cent, Colabas and Mazagon Land shares are both Rs. 10 lower. In Press shares the only change is a decline of Rs. 10 in Mofussil Company. Spinning and Weaving Companies are dull and declining, with a fall of Rs. 5 to Rs. 15 per share all round.

COTTON opened in the morning with a fairly steady feeling, the decline in Liverpool being to a great extent counterbalanced by the short receipts advised from New York, but the publication of the news from Constantinople caused buyers to withdraw from the market immediately, and we cannot learn that anything has been done since. Prices may be nominally quoted Rs. 1 per candy lower, but there is no great pressure to sell pending advice of the effect the news has had in Liverpool. The receipts are steadily increasing, the quantity arrived from up-country during the week ending to-day being 23,300 bales, and as the figures will rapidly increase now from week to week there is a possibility, especially if the Home advices come at all dull, that we may see rates approximating somewhat more closely to Liverpool arrival currencies than has been the case for some time back. We quote :—

Best Hingunghaut,	ready	Rs.	223	per candy f.p.
" Gurned Broach,	Feb.	"	220	"
" Akote	"	"	206	"
F. G. F. Omra.	"	"	202	"
G. F.	"	"	199	"
F. G. F. Dhollera	"	"	202	"
G. F.	"	"	198	"

FREIGHTS are very quiet, but owing to the scarcity of ready tonnage the rate for Liverpool immediate shipment is still maintained at £2-10 per ton. The balance of the cargo by the Zarbino to arrive is said to have been let at £2-7-6 with concessions to native speculators. By Sail there is rather more enquiry, but we do not hear of any vessel having been fixed as yet.

PIECE GOODS are only just steady. From the Bazaar a moderate business is doing, but transactions from first hands have been small and prices are unchanged. Local Piece Goods and Yarns are steady.

COALS are firmer, sellers having withdrawn in face of the possibility of war in Europe. Buyers, however, do not offer higher prices.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

Statement of Traffic for the Week ending 13th January, 1877.

Open 1,278¾ Miles.	Rs.	a.	p.
Coaching	1,08,004	0	0
Merchandize	5,16,848	0	0
Sterragh	1,863	0	0
Municipal Trains	407	8	0
Total Rs.....	6,27,122	8	0

Corresponding week last year open 1,278¾ Miles			
..... Total Rs.....	4,14,462	14	3
Increase	2,12,519	9	9

BANK OF MADRAS.

THE following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Madras on 13th January, 1877 :—

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	a.	p.
Capital	50,00,000	0	0
Public Deposits	46,58,988	5	11
Other Deposits	39,55,160	9	10
Cash Credits	9,29,987	3	3
Post Bills	6,182	10	0
Reserve Fund	5,25,000	0	0
Rs.	2,10,25,328	13	0

ASSETS.	Rs.	a.	p.
Silver & Notes	9,06,087	3	2
Govt. Securities	30,69,1-8	3	0
Loans	18,84,78	15	9
Account of Goods	11,2,431	0	0
Mercantile Bills discounted	41,78,924	12	11
Dead stock	2,44,791	5	1
Bills of Exchange	10,04,920	0	1
Due by other Banks	4,57,287	0	0
Rs.	2,10,25,338	13	0

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE BARQUE ALBERT EHRENSVARD, 504 tons, Captain P. Brodrine, will sail to-day for Havre with a general cargo.

THE BARQUE BATAVIA, 661 tons, Captain J. W. Brown, arrived in harbour yesterday from Shield (August 15th), with a cargo of 961 tons coals. The vessel is consigned to the Captain.

THE B. I. S. N. Co's s. s. AKOLA, 315 tons, Captain T. W. Williams, sailed yesterday for Kurrachee, with a general cargo and the following passengers :—Mr. George Yardley and servant, Mr. Futtychund Atmaram, servant, Mr Gray, Mr Jan Mahamed Cassim and friend, and thirty-nine deck passengers.

ARRIVAL.

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
19	Batavia	Brown	Shield, Aug 15.

DEPARTURES.

Jan.	Vessels.	Commanders.	Destinations.
19	Akola (s)	Williams	Kurrachee.
	Shah Jehan	Harwood	Moulmein.

The barque Albert Ehrensvard, Brodlins, to HAVRE, obtained her port clearance yesterday.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Jan.			
15	D. of Buccleuch (s)	Turner	London, Nov 17.
	Socotra (s)	Starratt	Madras, Jan 10.
	Naples (s)	Eaton	Madras, Jan 11.
	Gatherer	Thomson	Bombay, Dec 6.
	Gilbert Thompson...	Watson	Bombay, Nov 2.
	Dudhaffant (s)	Alquier	Pondicherry, Jan 2.
	Penerf	LeBesque	Chittagong, Jan 8.

DEPARTURES.

Jan.			
15	C. of Canterbury (s).	.....	.....
	Falstaff	.....	.....
	Cingalese	.....	.....

PASSENGERS.

PER DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH—Surgeon Major and Mrs Tippetts and 3 children, Captain Brown, RA, Mr and Mrs Flannay, Miss Hoey, Mr Gill, Mr Edwards, Mr Brooks, Mr Cock, Mr Mitira, Mr Pilgrim, Mr Blanchette, Mr Atkins, Mr L Parks, and Mr R B Bowler

PER GATHERER—Mrs J A Thomson and Mrs F R Thomson.

VESSELS SPOKEN.

By Naples—On 13th January, British ship Arethusa from London to Calcutta.

MADRAS.

ARRIVALS.

Jan.			
15	Lansdowne	.....	Pondicherry.
	Shnayda gone (s).....	.....	Rangoon.
	Gentoonnal	.....	Calcutta.
16	Navarino (s).....	.....	London.
	Lorne (s)	.....	Calcutta.
	Melda (s)	.....	Calcutta.
17	Oriental (s)	.....	Rangoon and N. Ports.

DEPARTURES.

Jan.			
15	Howsang (s)	.....	Calcutta.
	Helen Wallace	.....	Sonapore.
16	Bride	.....	False Point.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

PER S.S. "Navarino"—For Madras—Mrs W T Bailey, Major R Houghton, Mrs Houghton, Miss Houghton, Master Houghton, and European Nurse, Mr J A Dalziel, Mr A Speirs, Mr H Ihle, Mr Hjorth, Mr E Flynn, Mr E Culliford and Mr S Proudfoot.

PER S.S. "Oriental"—From Rangoon—Major H A Nepean Mrs C Hill and son, Mr S Boyd, Rev Ken Bain.

The Steamer "Duke of Sutherland," arrived at Colombo on the 15th instant and is expected at Madras early on Saturday next she is bringing the following passengers :—At Colombo—Miss Rigby, Mrs McLeod, Dr White and Mr Fitzgibbon. For Madras—Rev and Mrs Stevenson and ayah, Rev and Mrs Collins, Mr and Mrs Walker, Mrs Rowe Party and ayah, Rev and Mrs Macdonald. For Calcutta—Dr and Mrs Rees, Capt and Mrs Skene, child and ayah, Mrs Leitch, Mr Pemberton and Capt Austin.

DAILY IMPORTS.—JANUARY 19.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

King Richard 2—2 cases cutlery, Sow ger and Co ; 10 cases thread, H Cisson and Co ; 7 cases thread and 2 cases hardware, Esmaljee Essoolbhoy ; 34 cases stout, Jehangeer Rustomjee Batliwalla ; 4 casks earthenware, Soomar Veera.

FROM LONDON.

Eagle—89 packages glassware, and 8 packages earthenware, Rahimbhoy Rahimtoola.

Xantho s—15 cases medicine, Hurjee Muljee ; 1 case perfumery, Dinshaw Dorabjee Major ; 51 cases gin, Jamsetjee Framjee ; 57 casks beer, Jehangeer Rustomjee Batliwalla ; 20 crates, empty fruit bottles, Rahim Munjee ; 25 cases table vinegar, Moosa Soomar ; 5 packages medicine and 100 packages sulphate of copper, Ruttonjee Jewra ; 7 casks paint, Geo Gobingram ; 4 cases medicine, Jaitha Dossa ; 20 Rhds pale ale, Hormusjee Pestonjee and Sons.

Zambesi s—3) casks beer, C Bounaville and Co.

FROM BORDEAUX.

Precurseur s—100 cases brandy, Nowrojee Ardeshir and Sons.

India s—3 cases brandy, Jamsetjee Nowrojee.

FROM GLASGOW.

Europa s—25 cases gingerwine, 1 case orange bitters; 29 cases rum and 6 cases whiskey, Byramjee Sorabjee Doctor.

DAILY EXPORTS.—JANUARY 19.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Malwa s—500 bales cotton, W Nicol and Co ; 4 bales wool, Cummerlily Jeewajee.

Xantho s—90 bales wool, Bhimjee Nuthoo ; 99 bales wool, Matty Jaitha ; 137 bales cotton, Nurse Khutow ; 10 bales cotton, Vurudhman Takersey ; 136 bales cotton, Gocouldass Toolseedass ; 445 cwts myrabolams, W and A Graham and Co ; 32 bales wool, Hurjeevan Vussoorjee ; 4 bales wool, Vulubdass Nursey ; 32 bales cotton, Kessowjee Ramjee ; 32 bales wool, Heerumal Khelldass.

Trenthan Hall s—220 cwts coir yarn, Sewjee Lalljee ; 200 cwts coir yarn, Veerchund Hemras ; 50 bales rags, Chuvundass Chuttoorbhoo ; 12 bales hides, Mahamed bin Abdoola and Co ; 110 bales wool, Dilladhur Govindjee ; 19 bales cotton, Nusserwanjee Manuckjee and Co ; 100 bales cotton, Dewjee Sunderjee ; 150 bales cotton, Ritchie Stewart and Co ; 43 bales cotton, Dewjee Bhoorsa ; 55 bales cotton, Nurse Khutow ; 10 chests opium, A Blaschcck and Co ; 1 case shawls, Nusserwanjee Manuckjee ; 150 bales cotton, Campbell Mitchell and Co.

FOR LONDON.

Thibet s—5 bales hides, Abramovitz and Co ; 45 bundles Eteeth, Nanjeebhoy Goolamhoosein ; 1122 cwts coffee, Purdhan Sewjee.

FOR HAVRE.

Cosmopolitan s—350 bales cotton, Jules Siegfried and Co ; 400 bales cotton, Stearn Hobart and Co.

FOR TRIESTE.

Malwa s—200 bales cotton, Knoop and Co ; 34 bales cotton, Finlay, Scott and Co ; 41 cwts coffee, A Blaschcck and Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Travancore s—1 case cambay stone, Veerchund Custoorchund ; 104 bales cotton, Curreebhoy Ebrens ; 51 bales twist, Ahmedbhoy Hubibbhoy ; 24 bales twist, Goolamhoosein Johnmahas Cassim ; 10 cases twist, E Jan Mahamed Abdoor Rahim ; 14 chests opium, E J Abrahim ; 15 chests opium, David Sassoon and Co.

FOR SHANGHAI.

Travancore s—483 chests opium, E D Sassoon ; 173 chests opium, Goorsamull Jainarain ; 10 chests opium, Ramgopall Budrena h ; 13 chests opium, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co ; 14 chests opium, Jansraz Chetram ; 52 chests opium, David Sassoon and Co.

HIGH COURT.—20TH JANUARY.

(Before the Honourable the CHIEF JUSTICE and the HONOURABLE SIR CHARLES SARGENT.)

Appeals for hearing and final disposal.

116-75—Rimington, Hore and Langley—Navibai vs Kubee and others—Shapoorjee and Thacurdass and Hazra and Cleveland.

(Before the Honourable MR. JUSTICE BAYLEY.)

LONG CAUSES.

376-76—Prescot and Winter—The Anglo-Indian S and W Co Ld vs The Sun Shipping Co Ld—Craigie, Lynch and Owen—Part heard.

442-76—Jefferson and Payne—Cowasjee Pallonjee vs Dadabhoy Nusserwanjee P—Lynch and Tobin and Rimington, Hore and Langley.

(Before the Honourable MR. JUSTICE GREEN.)

For Investigation under Sec. 305 of Act VIII of 1859.

In person—Chundrabai widow vs Marwady Shridhur Sewlall.

For Consent decree.

137-75—Rimington, Hore and Langly—Eduljee Manockjee Setna vs Jamsetjee Hormusjee and another—P Kawasjee.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

LONG CAUSES.

299-75—K. Morojee—Manocklall Atmaram vs Godavarcebai widow—Prescot and Winter.—Part heard.

249-76—In person—Boojee Damjee vs Malsi Assoo and others.

359-76—Shapurjee & T—Sewjee Ramjee vs Vussonjee Cursonjee.

256-76—Mr Macfarlane—Manocklall Atmaram vs Dwarkadass Dayabhoy—P Kawasjee.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—JANUARY 13.

Hawthorn, Major, Bombay Staff Corps, from furlough, from England.

Elliot, Lieut, Bombay 1st Lancers, on duty, from Delhi.

Nicholette, Lieut, Bombay 8th Regt N I, on leave, from Poona.

Baigri, Col, Bombay 28th Regt N I, on duty, from Delhi.

DEPARTURES.—JANUARY 19.

Johnstone, Major, Bengal Staff Corps, to join, to Bunnoo (Punjab).

Elliot, Lieut, Bombay 1st Lancers, to join, to Poona.

MADRAS GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

(*Fort St. George Gazette*, January 16.)

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr Charles Jeffrey Knox, Actg Judge of the Small Cause Court, Madura, to act as Asst Sessions Judge in the Madura Sessions Div until further orders, without prejudice to his regular duties.

Maj R A Walters to act as Supdt of Prisons for the Town of Madras during the absence of Capt Hallett on special duty at Calcutta or until further orders.

Mr J Hope, Actg Dist and Sessions Judge of Chingleput, assumed charge of the Court from the Sheristadar on the forenoon of the 9th inst.

Mr T M Hunter, First Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Madras, resumed charge of the office on the forenoon of the 16th inst.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr T Marden, Inspr of Schools, 5th Div, furlough, to Europe for two years under Sec 12, together with preparatory leave not exceeding fifteen days under Sec 24 of the Civil Leave C de.

Mr L Garthwaite, Inspr of Schools, 6th Divn, to act as Inspr of Schools, 2nd Grade, from the date of Mr Mandens being relieved and until Mr Caldwell's return.

Mr W R Kershaw, B A, Inspr of Schools, 1st Divn, to act as Inspr of Schools, 5th Div, with the charge also of the 4th Div, vice Mr Marden.

Mr E P Metcalfe, M A, Head Master, Provincial School of Rajmundry, to act as Inspr of Schools, 4th grade, and to have charge of the 1st Div, vice Mr Kerhaw.

Mr J R Bildebeck, B A, to act as Head Master of the Provincial School of Rajahmundry, vice Mr Metcalfe.

Mr T Gowlland, B A, First Asst in the Provincial College of Combaconum, to act as Professor of History in the Presidency College until further orders.

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

The Rev J D Ostrchan, M A, Chaplain of Coimbatore, to be Chaplain of Vellore.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Mr R J McIvill, Colr and Mag and agent to Governor of St George in Vizagapatam, privilege leave for two months on medical certificate with effect from 9th Feb.

Mr Harry St Aubyn Goodrich to act as Col, and M ag and agent to the Govr of Fort St George in Vizagapatam during the absence of Mr McIville on privilege leave or until further orders.

Mr J H M Cox, Depy Director of Revenue Settlement, to be a Depy Collr and Mag in the Dist of Cuddapah during his employment on State Relief Works in that Dist.

Maj C J Stuart to be Depy Director of Revenue Settlement.

Mr G Stokes, Actg Head Asst Collr of South Canara, will be considered to have acted as Collr and Mag of that Dist from the 6th to the 23rd Dec 1876, inclusive.

Mr James Hope, Actg Collr and Mag of Godavery, delivered over charge of the Dist to Mr John Russell, the Actg Sub Collr, on the 3rd inst.

Col W H Hosey, Supt of Revenue Survey, delivered over charge of his office to Maj C C Sargeaunt, Asst Supt of Revenue Survey, on the forenoon of the 15th inst.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Col S Mainwaring, S C, is permitted to reside and draw pay in England.

The services of Capt C T P Luxmoore, S C, Wing Officer 10th Regt N I, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of India for appointment to the Mily Account Dept on probation.

The following promotion is made in the Medl Dept :—

Passed Hospital Apprentice Alfred Edwin Roch to be 2nd Class Asst Apothecary, from the 26th Dec 1876, vice Asst Apothecary Gurney, deceased.

The undermentioned Officers have reported their return from Europe ;—

Surgn-Maj R E Lloyd, Indian Medl Dept, arrived at Madras on the 24th Dec 1876.

Capt R C Hutchinson, Infantry, 2nd Sqdn Officer, Corps of Guides, Punjab Frontier Force, arrived at Bombay on the 6th Jan 1877.

Capt R T Chapman, Infantry, 2nd Wing Subn 32nd N I arrived at Madras on the 6th Jan 1877.

Lt Col A B Cumberlege, S C, Comsr, Chattisgarh Div, is permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough on private affairs for eight months, under the Regulations of 1868, with the necessary subsidiary leave, and to embark from Bombay.

Surgn-Maj R E Lloyd, Indian Medl Dept, Zillah Surgn and Asst Supt of Jail, Tanjore, is granted 30 years' subsidiary leave on return from furlough.

Surgn H D Cook, M D, Indian Medl Dept, Zillah Surgn and Supdt of Jail, Mangalapatam, is permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough, on urgent private affairs for six months, under Rule 81 of the Regulations of 1868, with the necessary subsidiary leave, and to embark from Bombay or Madras.

MR. E. M. WALTON,

SURGEON DENTIST,

12 RAMPART ROW.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

EUROPE.

DEATH.

HARPUR—December 24th, at Shanklin, Isle of Wight, of Typhoid fever, Nina, daughter of Lieut.-Colonel J. Harpur, Bombay Staff Corps, aged 10 years.

BOMBAY.

DEATH.

DEVACHA—January 19th, at Mr. D. C. Shroff's Bungalow, Gowalia Tank Road, Cooverbai, wife of Framjee Dorabjee Bomanjee Devacha and daughter of Dossabhai Hejonjee Dubash, aged 18 years. Her remains will be carried to the Towers of Silence at 8 A.M., this day (Saturday.)

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. E. H. S.—The length of the Alexandra Bridge over the Chenob is 9,300 feet.

R. R.—The Western Rajpootana Railway from Ahmedabad to Ajmere has not yet been commenced.

All MONEY ORDERS, CHEQUES, and other Remittance sent to this office, should be made payable to the Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

The Bombay Gazette

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1877.

THE Turk has, as we anticipated he would do, disdainfully rejected the final proposals of the Powers, and bidden defiance to his Russian foe openly and in the face of all Europe. It remains to be seen if Russia will accept the challenge thus boldly offered. A few months ago it seemed as if she could desire nothing better ; but times are changed. The Turkish army has shown its strength in war, Germany has put forth the intelligible threat that she would consider the permanent occupation of Bulgaria by Russian troops a danger to Austria, and the mobilization of the Russian army has revealed defects of personnel and organization which spoil the prospect of an easy march to Constantinople. Still, after the language used by the Czar in the speeches he made just before the Conference assembled, he cannot forego independent action now without destroying the prestige of Russia and convincing the nations of Europe that that Power is simply a big bully, ready to eat its words whenever it is confronted by a resolute opponent. He would be a rash man who would venture to predict what will be the result of a war between Russia and Turkey. In previous wars the Russian has usually been the victor, though in 1854-55 the Turks developed unexpected fighting powers, and, under British officers, defeated the Russians in more than one hard fought engagement. The Turkish army is now animated by a spirit of pride of race and religious fanaticism which may nerve the soldiers to feats of arms recalling the times when the Ottoman troops were the terror of Europe ; and it will be a curious result of the discussions among the Christian States as to which of them should take possession of Constantinople, if Turkey not only makes good her claim to the provinces already belonging to her, but carries her victorious flag once more beyond the Danube. What an odd sensation it would give us to hear that a Turkish army was once more besieging Vienna, or say, for a change, Warsaw ! If such a revival of Mahomedan power take place, Europe will have Mr. Gladstone chiefly to thank for it. It was this statesman who compelled the English Ministry to join with Russia in forcing Turkey to stand at bay ; and, though Lord Salisbury seems not to have thrown himself into the arms of General Ignatieff with the effusion described in some telegrams and letters from Constantinople, and though he carefully avoided using any threats to force the recommendations of the Conference on the acceptance of Turkey, the fact that he involving the destruction of the independence of the Turkish Empire, has, we fear, done serious damage to English influence at Constantinople. Even if the fortune of war goes against the Turks, they will be reluctant now to accept the assistance of a British force, which they would suspect of an intention to remain in the country, and it is doubtful also if the British Government, after having co-operated with that of Russia in the Conference, could justify any hostile action against Russia even if that Power were on the point of seizing all the European Provinces of Turkey. But in such a case the supreme importance of national interests would no doubt cause all considerations of justice or consistency to be set aside. Meanwhile, the position is this : We have lost the friendship of Turkey and bound ourselves down to connive at any extension of the Russian Empire which does not include the occupation of Constantinople. When it is remembered that last summer English influence was all powerful at Constantinople, and that no State in Europe dared to take action in the East without the consent of Mr. Disraeli's Government, the mischievous effect of the Gladstonian agitation in England and of the delusive and futile negotiations at Constantinople may be fully measured.

THE Government of India has at last published an explanation of the reasons which led to the appointment of Sir Richard Temple as a Special Delegate to assist the Governments of Bombay and Madras in managing the Famine. We say "at last," because, although dates which might have thrown light on the question whether or not Sir Richard's appointment was a necessity of State are for the most part carefully omitted, it is acknowledged that the policy of the Madras Government, in making purchases of grain on its own account, became known in the beginning of November, while "the sufficiency "of existing restrictions on employment on the "works in both Madras and Bombay" was a matter of common discussion many weeks ago. The Viceroy and his colleagues in Council had at that time, however, other and more attractive business to attend to, and so the Famine had to wait. We shall not be far out in assuming that the real gravity of the disaster which has befallen the country was not appreciated by Lord Lytton till he reached Bombay a month ago and was warned by Sir John Strachey and Mr. B. B. Chapman of the precarious state of the finances. In Mr. Hope's letter of instructions to Sir Richard Temple the result of the Viceroy's consultations with the Finance Minister is stated with uncompromising plainness, and the Special Delegate is ordered to bear in mind a principle which seems harsh when stated in Mr. Hope's words, but which nevertheless embodies a wholesome truth that the Government should be applauded for having the courage to act upon. "Considering," so runs the letter of instructions, "that the revenues are barely "sufficient to meet the ordinary expenditure of "the Empire, and that heavy taxation is both "financially and politically impracticable, we "must plainly admit that the task of saving "life, irrespective of the cost, is one which it is "beyond our power to undertake. The simple "fact is this, that the recurrence of a few "famines such as that from which the country "is now suffering, or such as that which "occurred three years ago in Behar, would, "if measures of relief were carried on upon "that principle, go far to render the future "government of India impossible. The embarrassment of debt, and the weight of "taxation, consequent on the expenditure "thereby involved, would soon become more "fatal to the country than famine itself." These stringent remarks on the folly of an extravagant Famine policy are illustrated by a quotation from a Minute by Sir John Strachey which was often used to point sarcasms on Sir Richard Temple's treatment of the Behar Famine in 1874, and in which the system of State aid is denounced that allows the people to flock to relief works on which they have little to do and plenty to get as to "a sort of vast picnic." It is creditable to Sir Richard Temple's patriotism that he should have disregarded these covert allusions to his own doings two years ago, and frankly undertaken the arduous and disagreeable duty of enforcing in Madras and Bombay an economy which could not be tolerated in Bengal.

As the Government of India seems to be of opinion, notwithstanding the elaborate compliments paid by Lord Lytton to Sir Philip Wodehouse, that there has been a lack of proper supervision in Bombay as well as in Madras, it may not be out of place to remark that any such deficiency is due to the action of the Government of India itself in refusing to be guided by the advice of the local officers, and in insisting on the frittering away of money on "minor works" instead of sanctioning the construction of great and useful works. We would invite attention to the seventh paragraph of the letter to the Secretary of State, in which a lame excuse is offered for this short-sighted and wasteful policy. The Government of Bombay asked for the Dhond and Munmar Railway in October, but they were then told to employ the people in cutting down prickly-pear hedges and cleaning out tanks which can be of no service except in the one year out of every fifty in which there is a failure of the rainfall. Now, permission is given for the construction of the line, but this is coupled with the ungracious intimation that the cost of all works undertaken during a season of famine must be borne "by the people protected and "benefited and not by the general taxpayer." A more monstrous doctrine could hardly be put forward. An imperial work, which will be of use to the whole country for all time to come, is constructed by Bombay labourers who have been thrown out of work by a dearth in the districts in which they live ; and the cost of this work is to be debited to the Provincial Treasury ! This is a fair example of the one-sided system of centralization which now finds favour at Calcutta. Let Bombay be unusually prosperous, and the whole of her surplus wealth is at once swept into the Imperial Treasury ; let her fortune be adverse, and she is sternly told that it is her duty to support herself. We hope our Government will send in an energetic protest against such unfair treatment. If we are to have local responsibility, let us have it in good years as well as in bad, and Bombay will be able to hold her own. But the present system is only designed to enable the Finance Minister to show a good Imperial balance sheet at the cost of all the Provincial Governments.

It now appears that we misread the telegram from Calcutta referring to the estimated cost of the Famine, and that the estimate of 6½ millions sterling is put forward, not by Sir Richard Temple, but by the Government of India in its despatch summarizing the information supplied by the local Governments up to the time of Sir Richard's appointment as a Special Delegate. But the ugly fact remains that the Famine is estimated by competent judges to be likely to cost India 6½ millions. A contemporary appears to find comfort in the reflection that this sum includes loss by remissions of revenue. He considers, apparently, that a remission of revenue goes for nothing—as Mr. Jefferson says, in *Rip Van Winkle*, when he is persuaded to take yet another glass, after having "swore off" for the fiftieth time, "Well, this won't count." But unfortunately for the taxpayer the loss to the State is as great whether it appears under the head of diminution of revenue or additional expenditure ; and the usual and sound plan, in estimating the cost of a Famine, is to include losses on both sides of the account. No doubt, Sir Richard Temple will exert himself most vigorously to cut down the estimate within more reasonable limits ; and the statements made by the Madras papers and by our special correspondent at Bellary regarding the waste of public money caused by the employment of well-to-do persons on useless works show that there has been extensive mismanagement in Madras, and that in that Presidency there is great scope for retrenchment. But experience does not warrant us in feeling sanguine as to the result of the most uncompromising efforts to secure economy in the management of famine relief works ; and, if Sir Richard Temple succeed in reducing the total estimate for Madras and Bombay to 5 millions, he will have done more than can be reasonably expected. The deficit thus created must be filled up somehow, and we read with amazement a proposal that no rule a man as Sir John Strachey had made the mistake of putting formally on record against himself the unstatesmanlike declaration that "additional taxation is financially "and politically impossible." What the Government, however, has really said is that "*heavy* additional taxation is financially and politically impracticable"—a declaration which may be regarded as imprudent, because unnecessary, but which nevertheless does not absolutely preclude the levying of new taxes. The Government is not prepared to let the people in the famine-stricken districts die of starvation so long as they can do a fair day's work for a fair day's wage, and it must therefore find the means somehow to pay the bill for keeping them alive. The Cash Balances are now at the lowest point they have touched for years, and in the present state of foreign politics, it would be dangerous to reduce them further. No resource is left, then, but a new loan ; and a wise financier will not permanently increase the debt of the country by borrowing more money to be utterly consumed in unproductive works or in donations of grain, without making an effort to increase the revenue. Such a policy would soon place India on the high road to national bankruptcy. We fear, then, that fresh taxation will be found indispensable. To say that it is impossible would be to say that the Government of the country cannot possibly be carried on. In fairness a considerable proportion of the enormous Land Revenue received by the State every year should be set apart as an Insurance Fund against Famines and to pay interest on works for restoring or further developing the fertility of the soil. But a succession of feeble rulers have chosen to appropriate the whole Land Revenue to purposes of ordinary expenditure, in order to relieve the wealthy trading class, which chiefly thrives under the British Government, of their fair share of fiscal burdens, and to make the luckless ryot pay, for all. The consequence is that the land is impoverished and the ryot reduced everywhere to a state of despair. Now, when the plain facts of the case can no longer be blinked, a Finance Minister would only proclaim his own incapacity who should refuse to effect such a re-adjustment of taxation as would give the land of India fair play.

THE *Pioneer*, which a few days ago published an alarming leader upon the ignorance of the Government of India about the strength of the army of the Ameer of Cabul, has had a new inspiration, under the influence of which it now looks at the Frontier tribes and their bedevilments with the most beautiful philosophy. It says :—"British prestige can afford to be very patient with Afreedees, and probably there must always be a zone of chronic disturbance between the tranquil dominions of British India and the wild mountains beyond. The northern limits of the British empire have long since been chalked out. No Englishman can want to see them pushed further back ; and from all this it follows as a condition of life in this empire, that we must have unruly neighbours. Indeed, the *raison d'etre* of places like Peshawur and Kohat and Nowshera, in the estimation of a great many Anglo Indian politicians, is their liability to insult at the hands of the hill-men." What nonsense this all is ! Fancy the *raison d'etre* of any place on earth being a liability to insult ! We suppose that the *Pioneer* is so imbued with the theory that, having savage neighbours, we must tolerate their eccentricities, that even if the Afreedees were to steal down upon Allahabad some night and knock its office about its ears, its editor would be found the next morning on his stool smiling sweetly as he penned an account of the disaster and tagged on to his facts his theory of inane benevolence and toleration towards all murderous, thieving scoundrels on the British frontier.

WE observe that the *Madras Times* disapproves of the appointment of Sir Richard Temple and the Government of India's censure of the famine policy pursued by the Madras Government. On the latter suject, it makes the following remarks :—"The policy of the Government of Madras in contracting through a private firm for large supplies of grain is as freely condemned as that of the Government of Bombay in leaving the whole thing to private trade is approved, and it is announced in a *Gazette Extraordinary* that the Supreme Government has refused the applications of the Madras Government for authority to make further purchases in the same way. While we fully agree with the views of the Government of India on the general question of policy, and have no doubt whatever that private trade is better than Government action we doubt the justice or expediency of a distant, authority pronouncing so sweeping a judgment upon the course pursued by the responsible authorities on the spot. Now that the requirements of the famine districts are fully known to the trading public, no doubt private enterprise will fully meet them ; but it is far from impossible that special action on the part of Government may have been necessary to prevent deaths by starvation at an earlier stage. Now, should it be shown that this was the case —that the tide of private enterprise did not at first flow fast enough to reach obscure and sorely stricken districts, can

LATEST INTELLIGENCE

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

REJECTION OF THE FINAL PROPOSALS OF THE POWERS BY TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 18TH JAN.

The Grand Council which was convoked to consider the final proposals of the Powers made by Lord Salisbury at the last sitting of the Conference, has unanimously rejected them as being contrary to the integrity and dignity of the Ottoman Empire.

FINAL RESOLVE OF TURKEY.

DETERMINED ATTITUDE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 18TH JAN.

At the sitting of the Grand Council to-day it was resolved, amidst shouts of "death before dishonour," that the Ottoman Porte *must* not further discuss the proposals submitted by the European Powers.

THE HALL LINE OF STEAMERS.

LONDON, 18TH JAN., AFT.

The s.s. City of Baltimore arrived at Liverpool to-day.

LONDON, 18TH JAN., AFT.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet.

The London Cotton Market has been steady.

Fair Dhollera	5¾d.

The Manchester Market has been quiet but steady.

Exchange on India.....	1s. 10 1-16d.
4 per cent. Rupee Paper.....	89
4½ per cent. do.	89
5½ per cent. do.	92

The Bank of England returns for the week ending yesterday show the following results :—

Reserve of Notes....	£13,400,000....Dec.	£600,000
Bills Discounted....	£17,700,000....Inc.	£206,000
Bullion	£27,400,000....Dec.	£800,000

Proportion of the Reserve to the Liabilities, 44¼ 3 per cent. Consols for account..... 95¼d.
5 per cent. French Rente 1872..... 106¼.
Bar Silver..... 58 1-16
The sum of £50,000 has been withdrawn from the Bank of England for Germany.
Arrival—Camperdown.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON.

Closing quotations on Friday :—

Bank Bills on demand	1s. 10-3/16d.	per Rupee.
Do. 6 months' sight...	1s. 10¼d.	,,
Credits 3 ,,	1s. 10½d.	,,
Documents 3 ,,	1s. 10½ to 9/16d.	,,

WE publish a supplement to-day, in which will be found the letter from the Government of India to Sir R. Temple and the despatch to the Secretary of State for India, published in the *Gazette of India Extraordinary* on Tuesday last.

IT is said that the Secretary of State has called upon the Madras Government to furnish all the papers connected with the recent Weld case.

H. E. THE VICEROY will hold a *Levee* at Government House, Calcutta, on Tuesday evening, the 23rd instant, and Lady Lytton will hold a drawing-room on Friday evening, the 26th.

A SALUTE of fifteen guns was fired from the saluting battery at 7 A.M. yesterday on the occasion of the departure from the Presidency of His Highness Maharawul of Dungarpur.

SIR WILLIAM MEREWETHER, Commissioner in Sind, who has been the guest at Lahore of the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab for two days, left on Saturday evening, the 13th instant, for Kurrachee *via* Bahawalpore.

THE Khan of Khelat, attended by Dr. Duke, arrived at Lahore by special train on Monday last with 500 followers. He was to make a stay of about 4 days, and to be received by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

THE *Lucknow Times* understands that, on his retirement from the Chief Commissionership of Oudh, the Hon'ble Mr. Inglis will visit Australia, and not improbably spend his well-earned retirement from the toils and vexations of official life, in Tasmania, where so many Anglo-Indians are now flourishing colonists.

THE only matter of special interest disposed of at the quarterly meeting of the Municipal Corporation held yesterday was the election of a chairman for the current year. On the motion of Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, C. S. I., the retiring chairman, supported by Captain Henry, Colonel Hancock was unanimously elected chairman. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring chairman.

A CORRESPONDENT of a contemporary writing from Calcutta on the 15th instant says :—"The Hon. Mr. Ashley Eden has been here for some days. His Aide-de-camp, Captain Oakton, arrived last week, and Captain Boileau, his Private Secretary, yesterday. Mr. Eden's appointment seems to be a popular one, especially in the service, and the fact that he is a Bengal Civilian is also comforting after a succession of strange Lieutenant-Governors."

THE *Civil and Military Gazette* says:—"The man who really took Delhi, who had the direction of all the attacking works, was admittedly Major General A. Taylor, C. B., Secretary to the Punjab Government in the D. P. W. This officer, though in camp during the Imperial Assemblage week, was not asked to join the dinner, and such an assemblage without him was surely the play of Hamlet with the part of the Prince left out."

EFFORTS are being made to start a Brewery Company on the Neilgherry Hills, the projectors to buy up the stock, premises, and plant, of Mr. Honeywell, the Brewer of Arvenghat. If the Madras Government would give a fair trial of Hillbrewed beer among the troops, complete success would be ensured. The long run Mr. Honeywell has had single-handed ought, says the Ootacamund paper, to be encouragement enough for any Company.

THE following notice has appears in the London *Times* :—

On Friday, the 5th of January, and on the same day of each succeeding week, it is proposed to issue a Weekly Edition of *The Times*, price 3d., containing all that is of special or permanent interest in the editions of the six previous days, and printed in a form suitable for binding as an annual volume, or for postal transmission abroad. It is believed that the facilities thus afforded for preserving in a convenient and permanent shape an immense mass of valuable and interesting information, at present limited to the brief life of a daily newspaper, will be duly appreciated by the public. The difficulties also of constantly recurring and heavy foreign and colonial postage charges will thus be reduced to a minimum, while an admirable new medium for advertising will be created.

THE *Englishman* has been put in possession of the following extract from a private letter :—"Two large cases full of Enfield rifle caps, with a copy of the Koran on the top of each box, were discovered at the Jhelum railway station the day I was there; they were consigned by a native from Delhi to a 'bhaie' at Jhelum; but the latter gentleman, when required, was *non est*. It appears that these fellows have a friend on the platform ready for any emergency, and they send word sharp, if anything goes wrong. These boxes would not have been discovered, but the waggon in which they arrived caught fire; so they examined the cases to see the damage, and thus the discovery."

THE Governor of Ceylon formally adjourned the Legislative Council on the 10th January till the 11th April. On the evening of the 12th instant he left Colombo by the Colonial steamer Serendib for Galle, where, accompanied by Mr. Thackwell, A. D. C., His Excellency would embark for Australia on board the P. and O. steamer. In his speech at the last meeting of the Legislative Council the Governor said he would return about the 11th April, but if he should be a few days later his honourable friend the Colonial Secretary would adjourn the Council for another week. In Australia Sir William Gregory will be the guest of Sir Hercules Robinson, formerly Governor of Ceylon.

MR. PARKES, the Engineer in Chief of the Madras Harbour Works, in his reply to the order of Government calling upon him to remain some time longer in Madras with the view of ascertaining personally the true nature of the progress made with the works, considers that the work is now in such a state that there is no occasion for his further stay at Madras. The Government, however, consider it very desirable that Mr. Parkes should prolong his stay some time longer until it has been seen whether the helmet divers are able, as anticipated, to level the foundations, the decision of the question of Mr. Parkes leaving Madras has been postponed until His Grace the Governor returns.

MATTERS in connection with the public health in Madras appear to be getting worse. The last published official mortuary return shows that, from the 6th to the 12th instant, there were 369 deaths from cholera, the number recorded as having occurred during the previous week being 350. There were thirty-one cases of cholera in the General Hospital yesterday morning, and other cases were admitted in the course of the day. As the present accommodation for the number of patients seeking admission is not sufficient, three extra sheds are being erected in the compound. It is said that the staff of medical officers doing duty at the Hospital will have to be increased.

THE following Circular has been issued by the Admiralty respecting the method of obtaining money for payment of ships' companies on foreign stations :—"1. My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have, with the view of facilitating the despatch of public business, been pleased to direct that in future the approval of Commanders-in-Chief to the demands for cash made on shore establishments by the Paymasters of her Majesty's ships is to be dispensed with, the approval of the Captains being considered sufficient. 2. My Lords have also been pleased, with the concurrence of the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, to direct that, on foreign stations, where the money for naval service is obtained from the Commissariat Department, the demands are to be sent to and the cash obtained from that department direct, without the intervention of the Yard Accountant officers. Where the money is procured by bills drawn by the Yard Accountant, the demands from ships are to be sent to the yard direct, as at home."

MANY a Scot who is now traversing the vale of life in India will be sorry to hear of the death of Lord Neaves, one of the judges of the first division of the Court of Session in Scotland, who died in Edinburgh in the last week of December after an illness of three days. He was the oldest judge on the Scottish Bench, having been born in 1800. Lord Neaves was called to the Bar in 1822, and was Solicitor-General for Scotland from 1852 to 1854. He was Lord Rector of St. Andrew's University in 1872. His Lordship was one of the greatest humourists in Scotland, and many years ago he was associated with Christopher North and other northern lights in making *Blackwood's Magazine* shine before the world. He was fond of studying philology, and was reckoned a shrewd and sound lawyer; but we fancy he will be longest remembered by his social and scientific "Songs and Verses." It is only about six years ago since he published in *Blackwood* an exceedingly humorous poem entitled "The Leather Bottel," which ridiculed some of the "development" theories which were then trying to prove that man was originally an ascidian.

SOME wags have been playing a joke on a number of the detachment of the Calcutta Volunteers lately returned from Delhi. The following letter, with a medal enclosed, has been received by them :—

Fort William, 10th January, 1877.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief having been pleased to grant a special medal to the Volunteers present at Delhi during the Assemblage, Colonel Walton has much pleasure in forwarding the enclosed to Pvt. , D. Company, with his good wishes and congratulations for the exemplary conduct of the members at the Camp.

By order,
C. ROBERTS.
Adjutant, C. V. Rifles.

The medal is of solid leather, about an inch and a half in diameter and a tenth of an inch thick. On the obverse side is an Imperial Crown with the letters V. R. Round the upper rim is written "Distinguished Services," and round the lower is the name of the recipient and the company to which he belongs. On the reverse is printed

DELHI CAMPAIGN, 1876-77.

The medal is to be suspended round the neck by a narrow blue satin ribbon, which is attached to the decoration by a Tin-tack.

ONE of the effects of the scarcity in the Madras Presidency is that from the southern portion a larger number of coolies than usual have passed over into the island of Ceylon. The *Ceylon Times* estimates the number of immigrant labourers at 70,000 in excess of the number in the same period last year. The consequence is that rice is consumed in additional quantities to the extent of 30,000 bags a month, causing a considerable diminution in the stocks on hand. The Ceylon paper of January 9th says:—"The food scarcity in South India is still so severe and general that to the present time Tamils are flowing into the country by both the north road and the port of Colombo, to an extent most unusual at this period of the year. Large gangs are flocking over without any knowledge of the country, having no idea whither to bend their steps; and we are told that some of them are now in a state of destitution. This being the case it would be well if any large employers of labour, requiring any further number of coolies, would communicate the fact to the police station in Colombo who would place immigrants in the way of finding ready employment. It is in such an emergency as this that the need for an efficient Superintendent of Immigrants is felt, an appointment which, we feel confident, must sooner or later be made."

IN consequence of the difficulty experienced in obtaining the required number of men to despatch to India, to igument the tservice companies of the 1st battalion of the 12th Regiment (nearly 300 non-commissioned officers and men are wanted), it has been found necessary to open volunteering from various corps. The Regiments from which volunteering is allowed are the 2nd battalion of the 18th Royal Irish, the 47th, 82nd Prince of Wales's Volunteers, 86th Royal County Down, and the 104th Bengal Fusiliers. Notwithstanding the inducement held out, but compassionate leave, men have volunteered, and the required number for embarkation will have to be made up from the brigade depots. Under the new regulations issued from the War Department with reference to the despatch of troops to India, the men to be selected are those who have been one year in the sevice and have not been to India, men who are twenty years of age and have completed their drill, and men who, having previously served in India, are fit to return to that country; but, in the case of convalescent invalids, no man is to be embarked for India who has been home from that country less than twelve months.

The *Examiner* :—A 'Catalogue of the Oriental Manuscripts' left by Dr. Martin Haug, the eminent German Sanskritist, who recently died, has just been published at Munich. From 1859 to 1865, Haug had been Superintendent of Sanskrit Studies at Poona, in India, when he formed his valuable, and in some respects unique, collection of Sanskrit, Zend, and Pehlevi manuscripts. At that time he so succeeded in ingratiating himself with the Brahman priests as to be allowed to be an eye-witness of their most important sacrificial performances, a permission which until then had not been given to any stranger. He furthermore had the Rig Veda and the Atharva Veda recited to him by two professional chaunters, during a whole fortnight. Hence he could write with all the greater authority on the theories of Indian accentuation and recitation. Dr. Haug also was in close connection with learned Parsees, who according to recent news from Guzerat intend keeping up his memory by a Haug Foundation. The Sanskrit manuscripts left by him comprise not less than 309 numbers. Nearly all the texts belong to the circle of Vedic literature; only a few of them relating to law and grammar. The collection is very rich in Upanished texts, mostly copied under the control of Haug. Zend literature is represented by 377 numbers, partly composed of originals, partly of copies. It is hoped that the Berlin Library, already in possession of many valuable Sanskrit manuscripts will not fail to acquire this literary treasure.

THE *Times* has printed another letter from Mr. Freeman, about his in any view of the matter, extravagant utterance at the St. James's Hall Conference. Mr. Freeman complains that the saying of a private man should be picked out by the Minister of the Crown for systematic misrepresentation, and he affirms that Sir Stafford Northcote and Lord Carnarvon have misquoted what he has said. But if any one takes the trouble to compare what Mr. Freeman is reported to have said with what Mr. Freeman states to have been his saying, it will appear that, although different in form, the two are identical in substance. Mr. Freeman was understood to have said, "Perish India" rather than that we should support the Turks in the defence of the integrity and independence of their empire. What Mr. Freeman states that he said is, "Perish the interests of England, perish our dominion in India, rather than we should strike one blow or speak one word on behalf of the wrong against the right." The one saying is merely a paraphrase of the other, for to support the Turks, as against the Russians and their enemies generally, is, according to Mr. Freeman, to support the wrong against the right. Other persons may and do think very differently as to what the right and wrong of the case is. But no one would propose to strike one blow or speak one word on behalf of the wrong against the right in the abstract. In plain English, what Mr. Freeman maintains is that the interests of this country should go for nothing, and its empire in India should come to an end, rather than that the policy of her Majesty's Ministers should fail to be such as Mr. Freeman is of opinion that it ought to be.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette*, December 23 :—"Colonel Gordon may be expected in town before the week closes, or on Monday or Tuesday next at farthest, and, no doubt, will be the object of the attention which his remarkable exploits and his great success in Central Africa so fully justify. It is stated in one of the papers announcing his departure from Egypt that he is only going to remain absent for three weeks; but we have reason to think that his engagement in the service of the Khedive, which has been of such great advantage to his Highness, has terminated, all that was to be done by Colonel Gordon having been successfully accomplished. It is quite true that he may accept a re-engagement, but of this nothing is known. All that is certain is the greatness of the work he has done. He has left the bones of many who set out with him by the banks of the mysterious river whose sources he has at length won, beyond all yea or nay, aided by intrepid lieutenants, and he has in his own person had experience of the terrible effects of the climate; but the vigour of his will and the power of his mind and indomitable spirit have sustained his frame and his corporeal power. As "Chinese Gordon" is thoroughly acquainted with the Danube, having been one of the Commissioners—who in himself, indeed, may be said to have represented the vital part of the Commission—his presence at home at this juncture might be particularly useful, and perhaps the clamorous party who were so eager to hound on Russia in her attack upon Turkey, and to give her every assistance in that amiable object, will propose that Colonel Gordon should be sent to the Russian head-quarters for the purpose of placing at their disposal his engineering knowledge and special scientific attainments?"

THE line (says the *Statesman*) which is being taken by the *Pioneer* concerning the Madras famine, is precisely what might have been foretold. Its obsequious subserviency to the Government of India, is to be redeemed by its complete independence of that of Madras. "We are not at all concerned to defend the Madras Government, but this policy of fawning upon the 'sixth' form, and kicking the 'fourth,' is intolerable to men of candour. We know nothing of what the Government of Madras has done, or recommended, in the last two months, *because* the Government of India has kept it all secret, as it does everything else. And then we are to throw the blame upon Madras. Where are the despatches of the Madras Government of November last, that were refused to our commissioner, though he went twice to Madras to obtain them? Knowing as we do, that the Government of India has seriously embarrassed the Bombay Government by refusing to sanction the Dhond and Munmar railway, which that Government declares *must* be undertaken to provide for the people, we but reasonably conclude that the Madras Government has been thwarted in the same way; and that Sir Richard Temple has now been sent to make up for its own *laches* and indifference to the situation. It is nearly two months since this secret policy was noticed in these columns, and if any one is to blame for it, it is clearly the Government of India. Madras seems to have feared that publicity might do harm, and therefore left the decision to the Government of India." Returning to the charge in its next issue, the *Statesman* quotes the following from the *Hindoo Patriot* :—

"It is incomprehensible why the Madras Government has failed to grapple with the undertaking. It is true that the Duke of Buckingham is a new man; that His Grace is not acquainted with the condition and resources of the people, and that he has never had to face such a calamity; but the natives of the country are not blind and experienced officers. They are certainly well acquainted with the circumstances of the people, and they could have organized an effective agency for the administration of relief. How is it that they have been able to give reliable information to the Government of India on the subject? What is Sir William Robinson about? Where is the Board of Revenue? Has it lost its stores of knowledge? What is the district collectors doing? Have they ceased to mix with the people, and to be thoroughly in connected them with the masses below? We are surprised to hear that there is nothing like even an approximate estimate of the populations of the afflicted area."

Upon these remarks it says :—"We are satisfied that the Madras Government *did* give reliable information to the Government of India on the subject a few months ago; and when we know as a fact that the action of the Bombay Government has been impeded and embarrassed, by the refusal to this hour of the Supreme Government to sanction the works which the former declares are required to enable them to meet the existing distress, it becomes nearly certain that it is not the local Government of Madras, but the Government of India, against whom these reflections really lie. We have been so accustomed to see the *Pioneer* divert the blame of all mistakes from the Government of India to its subordinates, or to the local administrations, that we utterly decline to receive its present statements concerning Madras, and we advise our contemporaries to do so too."

OFFICIAL NEWS REPORT FROM ADEN.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 10TH JANUARY 1877.

THERE was a considerable fall of rain on the night of 5th January. There are seven feet of water in No. 1 tank and from three to four feet in several of the smaller ones.

20,92± camels entered Aden from the interior during December 1876. Of these 926 brought coffee from Yemen, 742 vegetables and fruits. The remainder carried fodder, grain, wood, charcoal and drinking water.

It is said that the inhabitants of Sajoora have sent their families to Zeyla, as an attack is expected from the Dankelli tribe. The Egyptian Corvette Sarka has been sent to Tajoora to re assure the people.

There is a rumour that King John of Abyssinia has prohibited kafilas from passing to or from Massowa through his territories, and that he intends to break off all communication with that port.

J. W. SCHNEIDER, Brigadier-General,
Political Resident.

ADDRESS FROM BROACH TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BROACH, 16TH JAN.

THERE is no news here to send you. As a conclusion to the festivities and rejoicings on Proclamation Day, I send you the following address written by Mr. Pranlal Muthooradas, which will in a day or two be sent through the proper channel to the Queen :—

To Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of England and the Empress of India.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY,—We the undersigned inhabitants of the ancient town of Broach, do gratefully avail ourselves of the present occasion, on this auspicious occasion of the Proclamation of your Imperial Majesty as the Empress of India, to offer our hearty and dutiful congratulations as your Majesty's devoted and faithful subjects.

Since the introduction of British rule in the country and city, law-lessness has given place to order, and safety to life, property, and reputation has been secured to all alike—to the poorest and meanest as well as to the wealthiest of the land, and to which, education has been fostered, public works carried out, new enterprises and manufactures introduced, and prosperity spread over the county.

Thus owing a debt of gratitude, we cannot help praying to the Almighty for the prosperity and maintenance of that rule which has showered so many benefits upon us; and laying our submission, our loyalty, and our obeisance before the throne of Queens, of a throne through whose vigilant and anxious supervision these happy results have in a great measure been achieved and through whose maternal care the future prosperity of this country is sure to considerably increase. Our concluding prayer is that God may bless your Imperial Majesty, your Royal Consort, and all those who are near and dear to your Majesty, with long life, uninterrupted health and prosperity.

LEGAL ETIQUETTE AND THE BOMBAY BAR.

In the High Court, yesterday, where the Chief Justice, Sir Michael Westropp, and Sir Charles Sargent, Judge, were sitting in Appeals, Mr. Mayhew, barrister, attended to offer an explanation of his conduct in regard to the double application made by him to the Chief Justice and to Mr. Justice Pinhey during the vacation, on which the Chief Justice animadverted in strong terms, when sitting in the Appellate Court at Mazagon. Mr. Justice Pinhey also occupied a seat on the bench with the Chief Justice and Sir Charles Sargent. A large number of members of the Bombay Bar were in attendance, and also several attorneys, those present including Mr. Serjeant Atkinson, Mr. Starling, Mr. Latham, Mr. Branson, Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Lang, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Inverarity, Mr. Fox, Mr. Farran, Mr. Platt, Mr. Gill, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Webb, Mr. Browning, Mr. Pherozeshs Mehta, Mr. B. Tyabjee, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Rimington, Mr. Chalk, &c. &c.

As soon as their Lordships had taken their seats on the Bench, the Chief Justice addressing Mr. Mayhew, who sat at the barristers' table, asked—"Mr. Mayhew, have you had a copy of Mr. Justice Pinhey's minute?"

Mr. Mayhew :—Yes, my Lord.

The Chief Justice :—Do you read it?

Mr. Mayhew :—Yes, Sir.

The Chief Justice :—The better course would perhaps be for you to read it aloud.

Mr Mayhew :—I received on the 12th January, 1877, from Mr. Orr, Prothonotary of the High Court :—

From the Prothonotary H. M. High Court, to C. J. Mayhew, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

12th January, 1877.

SIR,—I am directed by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice to forward to you the accompanying copy of a minute of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pinhey in order that if you should feel so disposed, you may upon the next occasion that the Chief Justice sits at the original side of the Court, make such observations upon that minute or as to the matter to which it relates as you may deem to be necessary or desirable.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

J. W. ORR, Prothonotary."

The Chief Justice—Mr. Orr had better read the minute aloud.

Mr. Mayhew—I was going to read it.

The Chief Justice—Very well, *it is extenso*, that will do. We shall be glad to hear any observations that you may wish to make in supplement to the minute, and also any remarks you may wish to make on the matter to which it relates generally.

Mr. Mayhew—I have, my Lord, the remarks which I propose to make written.

Mr. Mayhew then read the following minute by Mr. Justice Pinhey :—

As this plaint was presented to me and accepted by me at my private residence during a vacation of the Court on the representations of counsel which at the time appeared to me to require that I should make an order for the filing of the said plaint; and as from information since received I am of opinion that the said plaint ought not to have been presented to me, and that the order made thereon by me ought to be cancelled, it is in my opinion desirable that I should record in writing a statement of the circumstances under which the said order was made and of my reasons for considering that such order should be cancelled.

2. On Saturday, the 30th December 1876, at about 4-30, or 4-45 P.M., when I was preparing to go out with my family, I received intimation that Mr. Mayhew was in my drawing room, and I went into the drawing room to receive him as an ordinary private visitor. On shaking hands with Mr. Mayhew informed me that he had come on business of an emergent nature. Upon this I remarked that we had better go into my library and this we did.

3. As we passed from the drawing room to the library, I asked Mr. Mayhew why he had come to me on business as I was not vacation Judge, and I objected to t ansacting judicial business at my private residence. In reply, Mr. Mayhew informed me that I was the only Judge known to be in Bombay, that the application which he had to make was of an emergent natures that when the Courts were not sitting and there was no Judge in the chamber, it was the practice to bring emergent applications before any Judge that could be most conveniently found. How far this statement of Mr. Mayhew as to the practice is correct, I shall not undertake to say, but as a matter of fact, I know that when I first joined the Court 3½ years ago, I was informed that the Judge who sits as Commissioner in Insolvency on Wednesdays, when no other Judge is sitting on the Original Side of the High Court, usually disposed of emergent applications made to him—*e.g.* signing warrants for the imprisonment of persons arrested under warrant by the Sheriff and receiving plaints that would otherwise become time-barred. I was informed by the officer of the Court that this was the practice of Mr. Justice Gibbs whom I succeeded as Commissioner in Insolvency. And I feel sure that I have mentioned to other Judges of the Court that I followed this practice and consulted them as to whether there was any objection to my so acting in the absence of the Chamber Judge on the ground that this particular duty not having been specially deputed to me by the Chief Justice.

4. Therefore I did not at the time Mr. Mayhew made his application to me see any impropriety in my receiving it and dealing with it. Either at this time or subsequently on our interview, Mr. Mayhew remarked that he thought the Chief Justice had gone to Matheran, and that I was the only Judge in Bombay. If this statement had been correct, it would have been a hardship if the only Judge in Bombay had refused to hear counsel make an emergent application.

5. Personally I was much inconvenienced by hearing Mr. Mayhew's application as he stid about half an hour or more with me and I and my family were thereby prevented from carrying out our programme for that afternoon.

6. Seated in my library Mr. Mayhew said that he applied to me to accept a plaint and grant an injunction, but that he was bounded at the same time to inform me that he had on the previous day presented another plaint in reference to the same matter before the Chief Justice and asked for an injunction, and that the Chief Justice had refused to grant an injunction because the facts stated in the affidavit accompanying the plaint were insufficient in two parts of the affidavit, that the Chief Justice had returned the plaint and affidavit in order that the plaint might be again presented with sufficient affidavit.

7. I at once remarked that I should altogether refuse to make any order which could appear to be a review of the order made by the Chief Justice, or to take up a matter which could in any sense be considered as pending before the Chief Justice.

8. Mr. Mayhew said he did not ask me to review any order made by the Chief Justice but only to make the order which the Chief Justice would have made if the Chief Justice had been informed by me in the present form, as both the difficiencies pointed out by the Chief Justice in the affidavit had been supplied in the new affidavit and a new plaint had been drawn in which the same statement of facts was emodied, and so far from any intermeiddling with a matter in any sense pending before the Chief Justice, Mr. Mayhew said that the Chief Justice, instead of accepting the plaint as he was ready and willing to do, had allowed him to withdraw it, in order that it might be presented again in the morning before the Chief Justice or other Judge with a new and more full affidavit, and that therefore the matter was no longer in any sense before the Chief Justice.

9. I again remarked that from Mr. Mayhew's statement it appeared to me that the application had better be made again before the Chief Justice who would be the best judge to determine whether the new affidavit was sufficient, and whether the defects noticed by his Lordship in the first affidavit were also sufficiently supplied.

10. Mr. Mayhew then informed me that when the Chief Justice had allowed him on Friday to take back the plaint his Lordship had told him that if he brought back the plaint and a new affidavit the same day at any time before 5 P.M. to the Chief Justice, he would himself dispose of them; but that he could not promise to receive them on Saturday as he would probably be going to Matheran. Mr. Mayhew further said that if the affidavit was not ready till Saturday the Chief Justice had told him that the plaint might be taken to Mr. Justice Pinhey another Judge. Mr. Mayhew added that the Chief Justice had mentioned Mr. Justice Pinhey by name as one of the Judges (or as the only Judge, I forget which,) in Bombay.

11. I do not say that Mr. Mayhew explicitly said that if the plaint and affidavit were not ready before Friday at 5 P.M., they were to be taken to Mr. Justice Pinhey, but from what Mr. Mayhew did say as described in para. 10, and from what Mr. Mayhew knew of the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Pinhey as Judges in Bombay, I certainly understood Mr. Mayhew to mean that the Chief Justice contemplated the plaint and affidavit being brought before me if they were not ready before Saturday, the 30th December.

12. Mr. Mayhew further told me that the Chief Justice had directed him to tell any Judge before whom he might renew the application exactly when and how to present the application had been refused on Friday by the Chief Justice.

13. After this I no longer hesitated to proceed to hear Mr. Mayhew's application. I read the plaint and affidavit. Mr. Mayhew pointed out to me the alterations that had been made by the Chief Justice to the first affidavit (viz. 1st, as to the legitimacy of the defendant as the daughter of the plaintiff's husband; and 2nd, as to the profligate character of the man to whom the defendant was about to be married) which were supposed to remedy the defects which had been pointed out by the Chief Justice in the amended plaint. I then accepted the plaint. On the application for an injunction and appointment of a guardian and receiver, I refused to give any *ad interim* injunction but gave a rule *nisi* for an injunction, and directed the appointment as receiver and guardian *ad litem* of Mr. Adams, an officer of the Court, who, Mr. Mayhew said, was willing to act in this capacity and as the defendant was a female I appointed the plaintiff, her stepmother, as guardian of her person.

14. As the next day was Sunday and the day following New Year's day, I was pressed with the consideration that if the facts stated in the plaint and affidavit were true, serious consequences might result if I refused to accede to Mr. Mayhew's application.

15. On Monday morning, the 1st January, the same clerk who had accompanied and instructed Mr. Mayhew on Saturday brought for my signature an order drawn up in the terms stated at the end of para. 13.

16. On Monday, shortly before lunch, Mr. Orr, the Prothonotary called on me and told me that the Chief Justice had heard of my having been in attendance on Saturday and granted the injunction which his Lordship had refused on Friday, and wished to know if this were true, as if it were true, Mr. Mayhew and the solicitor who instructed had acted improperly and in an unprofessional manner. I told the Prothonotary shortly what had taken place on Saturday as accurately as I could, and as it appeared that either through misrepresentation or misunderstanding an application had been made to me which I should have refused to entertain had I known that the Chief Justice was desirous that it to be renewed before himself, I requested Mr. Orr to write at once to the solicitor and direct him to proceed no further with the order obtained from me pending further instructions, and also asked Mr. Orr to let the Chief Justice know that it was impossible for me to go and explain matters to his Lordship before the Proclamation of Her Majesty as Empress of India. I would go to him directly the Proclamation was over and tell him what had occurred, and how, when and why I had acted as I had done.

17. It appeared to me from what Mr. Orr said, and immediately I had heard Mr. Orr's account of the Chief Justice's view of the presentation of the plaint before me that his Lordship considered that I had acted improperly; that I had no authority to receive the plaint as his Lordship had not appointed me either vacation Judge or Chamber Judge; that I had better cancel any order which his Lordship would have to cancel it publicly (in other words passed: but I need not tax my memory to recal them as the above expressions which I do remember are quite sufficient for the present purpose.

19. Is, or has been, the practice and whether that practice has been convenient to the public and to the members of the Court, I conceive that there can be no doubt that technically I was wrong in accepting this plaint because this duty had not been allotted to me by the Chief Justice, and it is the Chief Justice who is charged with the sole authority of determining what work shall be allotted to each Judge. On this ground I have no hesitation in cancelling my order accepting this plaint as made without authority, and with that order of course the rule *nisi* for an injunction and the order appointing guardians of the defendant and a receiver.

20. I am not sure that I understand what his Lordship meant by the alternative course which he proposed of cancelling my order publicly if I did not cancel it. But at all events I have no hesitation in cancelling the order myself as publicly as I can while the Court is closed, and I understand that both my order accepting this plaint and my (order?) recalling that order are public—that is, official and not private acts.

The Chief Justice—I may say what I intended to convey to my brother Pinhey was that the order having been made in Chamber, should be cancelled in Chamber, and if I could not cancel it in Court, I thought it would be by means solely on the ground that the duty of receiving plaints and hearing motions during the vacation had not been allotted to Mr. Justice Pinhey, but because the reception of the plaint and the granting of the order was the impression that such a course existed in the Chief Justice and Mr. Mayhew as Mr. Mayhew had related to me had taken place, therefore it was not on the ground that Mr. Mayhew had stated anything incorrectly to me that I cancelled my order. As to what took place between the Chief Justice and Mr. Mayhew, the Chief Justice will speak. Otherwise, I don't think any other remark need fall from me in this matter.

His Lordship the Chief Justice said—On the 29th December, Mr. Mayhew, accompanied by a Parsee who appear to be an attorney's clerk came, knowing that I was the vacation Judge, and when my clerk was by previous arrangement in attendance, to ask me to receive a plaint in this case, and to make an order. The order which Mr. Mayhew asked me to make was not an order absolute, but an order *nisi* in every particular, except so far as an *ad interim* injunction was concerned to prevent her marriage which it was alleged was about to take place. The complaint was as follows :—"One Hazee Mahomed Sallay Parkur, late of Bombay, deceased, had two wives; the plaintiff, and one Mariambee, who died before him and one daughter, Ayashbee, the infant defendant by his wife, the said Mariambee. The said Hazee Mahomed Sally Parkur died about four years ago, leaving the said Ayashbee his only daughter by his wife Mariambee and the plaintiff, his widow surviving him. The said Mariambee lived in the Duncan Road, separate and apart from her husband, and after the death of Mariambee, Ayashbee lived in the same house in the Duncan Road with her grandmother, Chotesbee, separate and apart from her father and the plaintiff. The said Chotesebee died in the month of November last possessed of a house on the Duncan Road, a house near the Mayo Garden, and personal estate and ornaments of the value of about rupees eight thousand. Mr. Mayhew described the matter to me verbally by stating that Mariambee was a prostitute; but that was not stated either in the plaint or the affidavit before me. That is to say, the mother of the girl whose marriage he was seeking to prevent had been a prostitute. The plaint continued. "The only person now entitled to the estate left by the said Mariambee and Chotesebee is the said infant defendant, Ayashbee, who is a girl of about the age of 13 years. The said infant defendant Ayashabee is now living in the said house in the Duncan Road, separate and apart from the plaintiff. The estate left by the said deceased Mariambee and Chotesbee, consists of the said two houses, monies, and ornaments before mentioned, and the whole of the estate is in the possession of and under the control of the said infant defendant, Ayashabee, and the persons with whom she is living. The said Ayashabee is surrounded by bad company, and is associating with persons of a disreputable character, who are instigating her to lead an immoral life and squander the estate and effects left by her deceased parents, and the said estate and effects are in great danger of being misappropriated and wasted." There is, you will observe, no allegation that her father left any estate, although she is represented as owning the estate of her deceased parent. The plaint further said :—"The plaintiff has been informed and believes that the said associates of the infant defendant are about to get the defendant Ayashabee married in a day or two to one William, *alias* Vully Mahomed, the son of a public woman, who keeps one mistress, by whom he has already had some children. The plaintiff says it is highly desirable that a proper guardian should be appointed to take care of the person of the said Ayashabee during her minority, and to marry her to a proper husband in a proper manner, and also that a receiver should be appointed of the property left by her deceased parent. The plaintiff therefore prays that a proper person may be appointed as guardian of the infant defendant Ayashabee during her minority, and that the infant defendant may be restrained by an order and injunction of this Honourable Court from marrying the said William, *alias* Vully Mahomed or any other person whatsoever, and all persons from marrying, and from performing the marriage ceremony of, the infant defendant, without the approval or authority of this Honourable Court." Now, this was accompanied by an affidavit which was simply an echo of the plaint, and that affidavit was filed on the 28th December, the day before the application was made. I don't think it contained an additional fact; it was merely a copy of the plaint put in the form of an affidavit. I presumed that the father of the infant is said to be deceased for four years, and there is no allegation in either the plaint or affidavit that the girl had ever lived with her father. When I asked how it was that Mariambee, the mother of the girl, lived apart from the alleged husband, I was told she had been divorced by him. That was a *vivâ voce* statement made to me but not contained either in the plaint or affidavit; and I was further informed in the same manner that Mariambee was in fact a prostitute living in the Duncan Road. Those were the very words of of Mr. Mayhew. Under those circumstances, I refused—not to receive the plaint, for that would stand in law, that is to say it was not demurrable on the face of it, but I refused to grant any one of the orders asked for, viz :—an order *nisi* for the appointment of a guardian *ad litem*; an order *nisi* for the appointment of a guardian of the infant; an order *nisi* appointing a receiver; and an order *nisi* for an injunction, with an *ad interim* injunction. I refused to grant any one of them. I said to Mr. Mayhew that the complexion which the case bore to me then was that the alleged stepmother of the infant was anxious to appropriate to herself the gains accumulated by means of such trade, or profession, or calling as these persons might have exercised in the Duncan Road, that is to say, the mother of the girl, who was then stated to be a prostitute, and the grand mother, who was alleged to have left the property at her decease, which the girl and the persons living with her possessed. I said it appeared to me very extraordinary indeed, if this girl was the daughter of Ally Mahomed Sallay Parkur, that he should have left her for the whole of the girl's legitimacy I mean proof that she was the daughter of Ally Mahomed, and the stepdaughter of the plaintiff. I said I must be satisfied on these points, and that there must be full explanation as to why the father and stepmother had left the girl in that immoral house all her life without making any effort to rescue her from such a position. That remark was not communicated to Mr. Justice Pinhey, though I expressly said that to whatever Judge the application might be made if I were absent from Bombay, this fact, as well as the two others I have named, should be mentioned to that Judge. That duty was not performed by the learned counsel, as appears from the minute of Mr. Justice Pinhey, who was not told one word about this woman, the deceased mother of the child, having been a prostitute. It was upon that information given to me by Mr. Mayhew that a great many remarks fell from me as to my right to assume from the course of conduct pursued by the father and the subsequent conduct of the stepmother, who left the girl all her life in a brothel, that the application was made with the object of obtaining money and not for the benefit of the girl. And I must

SEASON REPOPTS.

The following Season Reports for the week endin 10th instant are published for general information :—

Kurrachee.—Total rain-fall from 1st January to 31st December 1876 at Karrachee 7·88, Kotri 6·68, Tatta 7·12, and Mirpur Batoro 8·23. Fever prevalent. Small-pox in places previously mentioned. Rabi crops coming into ear. Cotton-picking commenced.

Shirkarpur.—(Report dated 13th).—Weather cloudy. Rabi crops well. Cattle-disease continues. Public health fair.

Hyderabad.—Weather colder. Small-pox in Hala and Tando Alahyar, in Hyderabad City decreasing, 15 fresh cases, no deaths. Fever decreasing. Cattle disease in taluka Mirpur.

Upper Sind Frontier.—Weather cloudy and cold. Rabi prospects continue good. Fever prevails.

Ahmedabad.—Crops good. Fever and cold prevalent.

Kaira.—Prospects of rabi crops good. Cotton thriving.

Broach.—Public health and crops good. Cotton-picking commenced.

Surat.—No change. Cotton crops generally good.

Khandesh.—Fever and small-pox prevailing in some talukas.

Nasik.—No change.

Tanna.—Rabi crops not in good condition in some talukas. Small-pox in taluka Wars. Fever throughout Collectorate.

Poona.—(Report dated 9th).—Public health good.

Ahmednagar.—People of a few villages still emigrating with their cattle.

Sholapur.—Condition of people as before. Seventeen deaths from cholera in taluka Barsi.

Satara.—(Report dated 9th).—Cholera in Tasgaon taluka.

Belgaum.—Cholera continues, deaths 155.

Dharwar.—Migration to Kanara district from eastern talukas continues. Sporadic cholera in six talukas.

Kanara.—Nine deaths from cholera at Haliyal and Yellapur.

Kaladgi.—(Report dated 9th).—Cholera in three talukas ; 67 cases and 34 deaths in Badami taluka.

Rajkot.—Wheat and cotton not promising. Health good.

Wadhwan.—Weather and health good. Cattle-disease in Morvi taluka.

Baroda.—No change.

Kolaba.—(Report for the week ending 8th instant).—Weather and public health good. Cattle-disease in a few villages of Mangaon Taluka. Condition of people generally good.

Ratnagiri.—(Report for the week ending 2nd instant).—Sowing operations completed. Crops in good condition.

General Remarks.—Small-pox prevalent in parts of Sind, decreasing in Hyderabad. Fever general. Small-pox in Tanna and Khandesh Districts, and cholera in parts of the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country. No change in crops reported.

THE TRENTHAM HALL CASE.

THE ANGLO-INDIAN SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY *vs* THE SUN SHIPPING COMPANY.

At the High Court yesterday, before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bayley, the hearing of the above case was continued, in which the plaintiffs sued the master and owners of the *s. s.* Trentham Hall for damages sustained by reason of their refusal to deliver certain goods according to the terms of the bill of lading. Mr. Pigot and Mr. Jardine, instructed by Messrs. Prescot and Winter, appeared for the plaintiffs ; and the Advocate General and Mr. Macpherson, instructed by Messrs. Craigie, Lynch, and Owen, appeared for the defendants.

Evidence was to-day called for the defendants.

The Hon'ble Donald Graham, examined by the Advocate General, said—I am the senior partner in the firm of W. and A. Graham and Co. Our firm is the agent in Bombay for the Sun Shipping Company, Limited. I, on behalf of my firm, have been conducting the defence of this suit on behalf of the Sun Shipping Company. It is not the case that Cooper's Landing Agency is pecuniarily interested in the defence of this suit. Neither Cooper's Company nor any partner in that Company has guaranteed the costs of the suit. There are no suggestions on our part that any such guarantee should be given. My firm, as the agents, and the other defendants to this suit are directly or indirectly concerned for the defence of this suit.

Cross-examined by Mr. Pigot—It was never the practice of Cooper's Company to guarantee the costs of our firm. I have been a partner in the firm since 1864, except two intervals when I was in Europe, firstly, from July 1870 to December 1871, and secondly, from March 1872 to September 1874. The details and management of this suit were with Mr. Patterson, but I knew what was going on. We have always landed goods by night and day as a rule, but we did not assert our right. The Childwall Hall was our vessel ; she was lately in this harbour. It is quite possible that we landed the goods before advertisement. I have very little doubt. I know nothing about the landing of the goods *ex*-Childwall Hall during the afternoon on the same day she arrived. I don't know whether the Colaba Company were the holders of bills of lading. I was not aware of what happened about the Childwall Hall. I should think Mr. Cooper attended to the business in connection with that vessel. I believe Mr. W. Cooper was the senior partner of Messrs. Cooper, Wordley and Gray. I have not heard that goods were landed against the wishes of the consignees.

The Judge—This is irrelevant to the case. You must examine the witness as to damages.

Witness continued—I once had a conversation with Mr. Walker to the effect that his goods were not landed where he wanted. I asked him whether he had ever made a complaint. In the case of Framjee, Sands and Co., no complaints were made to me to my knowledge.

The Advocate-General read and put in a large number of documents in the case.

The Hon'ble Mr. Graham was re-called and examined by the Advocate General as to the signature to some documents of Mr. George Brooks. Mr. Pirrie's predecessor in the landing department. Mr. Brooks died about two years ago, and Mr. Pirrie succeeded him.

More documents were put in, among which were copies of the *Times of India* containing sub-editorial paras supplied by Mr. Pirrie.

The case for the defendants was closed here.

Mr. W. Pirrie re-called and examined by the Court.—I entered the service of the Company in October 1875 about a week after Mr. Brooks's death. In July 1876 I was not aware of the existence of those two letters. (Put in by defendants.) I was not aware of their existence until I came into Court. I have no letters altering or modifying the terms of those letters. As superintendent, all the correspondence is in my office, which is in a room in Remington and Co.'s office, and I could have read those letters any time I wished ; but I had no knowledge of them.

To Mr. Pigot—This copy of a letter addressed to Mr. W. Cooper would be a press copy. Mr. Cooper went home in the end of August or the beginning of Sept. 1874 as near as I can recollect, and died about three months afterwards. I supplied tarpaulins to Dadabhoy until he ceased to carry out my instructions. In the first instance, he broke the original agreement made by Mr. Cooper with the Colaba Company in the case of the steamer Palestine in September or October 1874. Dadabhoy apologized, and the matter was set at rest. In another case, the agreement was broken in the case of the steamer Bellona, which arrived in June 1876. When the monsoon broke, he made excuses and carried about one-half the cargo to the Sassoon Dock contrary to his instructions. Remington and Co. were the agents of the vessel. In that case, according to the agreement made with Mr. Cooper, I supplied Dadabhoy with tarpaulins. When he was working for us, I supplied him with tarpaulins and gave him every assistance. The agreement with Mr. Cooper was frequently broken by Dadabhoy between the instance of the Palestine in 1874 and that of the Bellona in 1876. Agreements made by Dadabhoy with Mr. Fogo, which were sometimes in writing, were broken by Dadabhoy from time to time. After the breaking by Dadabhoy of the agreement relating to the Bellona, there was no agreement existing between him and the Colaba Company.

To the Advocate General—None of these special agreements contained any provision about tarpaulins. This is a copy of an agreement relative to the Palestine dated 19th December 1874, written by Dadabhoy to Remington and Co. (Put in.) The other agreements had reference to particular steamers. There was not a fresh agreement to every steamer : one would sometimes go on for two or three months. Previously to the cargo *ex*-Trentham Hall, we had given no notice that we would not provide tarpaulins for goods landed by Cooper and Co. We had given him notice not to touch the cargo, and that we would send our own boats for it.

Mr. Pigot then addressed the Court in reply upon the defendants' case. He said he would pass over much of the irrelevant comment of his learned friend and his unsuccessful attempt to prejudice the plaintiffs' case. First, as to the misrepresentation which his learned friend referred to repeatedly, he must say there was no evidence as to who made the misrepresentation or what it consisted in. A good deal of matter about tarpaulins, godowns, &c., was imported to divert attention from the main issues in the case, on which, he must say, the plaintiffs had succeeded. On the 19th December, he (Mr. Pigot) offered to take a decree for the landing charges and upon the issues ; which was not assented to and very heavy unnecessary costs had since then been incurred. The suit was no doubt one in which the Colaba Company were largely interested with the plaintiffs ; and in which, as the learned counsel had at first admitted they had guaranteed to bear the costs. But the main object of the suit was to protect public interests, the interests of consignees. As his Lordship remarked, the importance of the case to the commercial community had been sufficiently established ; and there were issues which could not have been tried by the Small Causes Court. In one point of view, the object of the suit was to overthrow the custom of landing by night as well as by day ; in another point of view, the object was to put a stop to the practice of landing goods in defiance of consignees, and in defiance of the consignee's and so on. The learned counsel was anxious that his Lordship should hear evidence as to the importance of the case ; but the defendants having abandoned the main point the learned counsel could not tender evidence on that and other points. He was, however, entitled to say that up to the abandonment of the issues, there was an avowed practice to set at defiance the rights of consignees to land their goods where they pleased. Mr. Pigot hoped that, setting aside the prejudice created by his learned friend, his Lordship would treat this case as a serious attempt to obtain an adjudication of this Court upon the right of consignees, upon points which have over and over again been the cause of disputes between consignees and the owners or agents of ships. The learned counsel said he would be satisfied if his clients got the landing charges and one or ten rupees as nominal damages ; but he felt sure the Court would, in that case, award his clients all the costs.

After luncheon, Mr. Pigot addressed the Court at further length on behalf of the plaintiffs.

THE EXPLOSION AT MADURA.

(*Madras Mail.*)

We have received further particulars from Madura of the sad accident there on proclamation day by which two unfortunate individuals lost their lives. The casualties would have been greater had the guns been fired as originally proposed, in the vacant space in front of the Court-house. The arrangements as well for the imperial salute as for other things were simply disreditable : no responsible officer was in charge of the firing party, and it is no wonder that what was nobody's but everybody's business woefully mis-carried. The temple guns, three in number, with several pistol-like guns fixed upright in each block, were ranged in a line at short intervals in front of the main entrance. A Korava who, of all others, had been selected for loading the guns, was banging at the second block ; Arumugum, the taluq peon, now dead, stood near the first block superintending the affair, if there was any superintendence at all ; at the interval between the two was a chatty full of gun-powder, close to which a poor weaver-boy had taken his post, witnessing the spectacle. The arrangement was that the guns should be fired one after the other, but unfortunately in the excitement of the moment, the first was fired by some one (no body knows who) before the Korava had disengaged himself ; and all three went off with a tremendous bang, besides igniting the chatty. The Korava, in recumbent attitude, engaged in forcing down the wadding, was hurled clear seven feet into the air, and five others received serious injuries. Every care that medical skill could suggest was bestowed on the unfortunates, who were promptly removed to the Civil Dispensary ; but the injuries were so great that all the five brought there have since died. Her Imperial Majesty went of course without the full salute, as no attempt whatever was made, after the disaster to continue the firing. We may here mention that the number of convicts released at Madura both by Government and the local authorities was exactly 70, 69 natives and one European.

RETURN OF THE NIZAM TO HYDERABAD.

The Hyderabad correspondent of *Madras Times* writing on the 14 instant says :—

From an early hour yesterday morning, the city of Hyderabad was on the tiptoe of expectation to welcome back the young Nizam from Delhi. It had been announced that he would arrive at 9 A.M., and long before day dawned large bodies of the Reformed Troops, foot and horse, were drawn up in the neighbourhood of the railway station to receive him. A guard of honour was also sent down from Secunderabad, consisting of F-20 R. A. with some Native Infantry (29th) and Cavalry, (1st.) A telegram was received about 7 o'clock intimating that one of the engines having broken down, the Royal party need not be expected till one o'clock. At that hour the railway station presented a wonderfully brilliant and animated appearance ; all the approaches to it were lined with troops and the circular depression in front was occupied with numerous elephants, all more or less gaily caparisoned. The station buildings were covered with Union Jacks intermingled with the yellow standard of the Nizam. A little after 1 o'clock the expected train glided slowly into the station, saluting itself as it advanced by a series of fog signals, while F-20 R. A. took up the salute on the outside. The Nizam was met on station platform by the usual officials from the Residency and from Secunderabad, and conducted by them to his elephant. He ran gaily up the steps which gave access to the yellow howdah, and was immediately followed by Sir Salar Jung and by Vicar-ool-Oomra, who planted themselves in the seat behind him. The young Nizam seemed to view the spectacle in an easy, assured sort of manner as if all this were *tamasha* quite what he expected. In the evening the city of Hyderabad seemed at a distance a blaze of light, while the Residency and the houses of Hyderabad officials living in Chudderghaut were also strongly illuminated. There was no attempt at illumination North of the Hussein Sagur tank.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HONOURS AT DELHI.

The distribution of honours at Delhi, were led off by the *Star of India*, and among the nineteen English names in the list, we find those of

Mr. Fitzjames Stephen.
,, Hobhouse.
,, Clive Bayley.
Sir George Couper.
Mr. J. H. Morris.
,, Rivers Thompson.

After these distinguished names from the Executive Council, come the Secretaries :

Mr. Thornton.
,, Whiteley Stokes.
,, T. C. Hope.

Then the Post Office is decorated in the person of Mr. Monteith, and then the Madras Board of Revenue in the person of Mr. Thornhill, and finally the Police in the person of Mr. Metcalfe. After these, we have George Birdwood for devising the Imperial banners, and then the editor of the *Daily Telegraph* for crying up the Turk. Not a man of the great judicial service of the country, not a soldier in the whole Indian Army, not a member of the great Educational phalanx, not a man of the Medical service, not a member of the great Commissariat, has any reasonable right to expect honourable distinction by the Crown. The Executive Council and their Secretaries who breakfast and tiffin and dine and dance together at the Simla *picnic* every year for seven or eight months, steadily "decorate" each other as these occurrences come round, until the whole thing becomes a complete farce. The humour of it is really exquisite, as we think of Mr. Thornton recommending in an official despatch that Mr. Hope should be decorated, Mr. Hope doing the same modest service for Mr. Thornton ; Mr. Clive Bayley discovering that Mr. Hobhouse should be ornamented, and Mr. Hobhouse gently murmuring that Mr. Bayley's services to the State have been so conspicuous, that his C. S. I. ought to have a K put before it. There is a shade of something like dishonour in such conduct when we remember that these gentlemen virtually select themselves, for these distinctions. Upon not common sense and the simplest modesty, suggest that these honours should either be very exceptional or altogether deferred, until upon their retirement, Her Majesty is pleased to set a mark of her royal approval upon their services ? While the possibility exists of their being open to the suspicion of recommending each other—what man of really fine feeling would hold a place in such a partnership ? The thing becomes a positive scandal when we see these gentlemen so taken up with the contemplation of their own superlative merits, that it fills the whole horizon to the exclusion of every one but the two little figures of George Birdwood, deviser of the Imperial standards, and Arnold, the editor for long years of that refined and sensational production the London *Telegraph*. Did it really never occur to any one at the Simla *picnic*, that there was an army of 250,000 men in the country, five High Courts of Her Majesty's Judges, and a great non-official English community in India, as well as the 20 or 30 gentlemen playing badminton, or gracefully going idle on the Hills during the hot season every year ? We suppose that there never was a Government in the world, so narrow in its sympathies, so little really in earnest, as this *picnic* affair is every year. If we seem cynically severe in these remarks, or even unjust, whose fault is it, in presence of such astounding mistakes as the Government is constantly committing, under the influence of the atmosphere it breathes in a remote Hill station, where the faintest echo of public opinion in the large cities of the plains, fails to reach it. Such mistakes would be impossible, but for the unhealthy seclusion and exclusiveness of the Hills. The complete ignoring of all the High Courts of the country, and of the very Army itself—which we profess to *pay* in honours and not in emoluments—affords the most damaging proof of the loss of *morale* that results from this Government by *picnic*. There was not a judge in any High Court of India, not a counsel at the Bar, not a merchant, not a publicist, not a man in the medical service, or the educational, and not a man in the whole Aimies of India—who won the Empire we have just proclaimed—that had the faintest claim to recognition on the occasion. The editor of the *Daily Telegraph* in London, and the officer who happened to be in command of the Royal Navy Squadron in the Indian Seas at the moment, exhaust the statesmanship and the sympathies of the gentlemen gracefully going idle at Simla year after year, or relieving their ennui at that remote observatory of Central Asia, by decorating each other for the admiration of the dwellers in the plains.

There are old mercantile houses amongst us whose foundations were laid with those of the Empire itself in the last century ; and old and distinguished merchants who have been 30 years in the country ; but all alike are as though they were not in the eyes of the Council and the Secretaries who modestly adorn themselves with these decorations for their achievements at badminton.—*Indian Statesman.*

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NOTICES.

NOTICE.—Mr. FRANCIS MASOTTI has been authorized to SIGN our FIRM per procuration from THIS DAY.
KNOOP & Co.
Bombay, 18th January 1877.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
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IT is hereby notified, that the Fee for measuring Bales, Cases, Packages, &c.,—except Bales of Cotton, Wool, Hemp, Coir, Piece Goods, or Yarn—will, on and after the 1st February next, be HALF ANNA per Bale or Package.
By Order of the Committee,
J. GORDON,
Secretary.
Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 16th January 1877.

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For further particulars apply to
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